

Scene

Pacific Lutheran University • Spring 2011



Rock On!

A day in the life of PLU's
geologists in Antarctica
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calendar



Taylor Capellaro '14 gets up close and personal on a sunny afternoon near Red Square.

APRIL

March 16 - April 13

Bret Lyon Exhibition
University Gallery, Ingram Hall

April 4-5

MESA Day 2011
Locations across campus

April 14, 6 p.m.

State Farm MBA Speaker Series
Kim Nesselquist, CEO/Consul of Norway
Morken Center, Room 103

April 14, 6 p.m.

Hebrew Idol Finale
Administration Building, Lecture Hall

April 15 & 16, 7:30 p.m.

Dance 2011
Eastvold Auditorium

April 16, Noon

Lute Crew Alumni Association Luncheon
Meyer-Lamberth Cup Regatta,
American Lake
RSVP: 253-222-8480

April 18, 10:30 a.m.

Panama and the Canal
Garfield Book Company Community Room

April 19, 6 p.m.

Earth Day Celebration
Scandinavian Cultural
Center

April 20, 5:30 p.m.

Visiting Writer Series
Author Jess Walter
Scandinavian Cultural Center

April 22

7th Annual Latino Youth Summit

April 27 - May 25

Senior Exhibition
University Gallery, Ingram Hall

April 27, 7:30 p.m.

Religion Department Public Lecture
Guest speaker Charlotte Cote
Scandinavian Cultural Center

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ON THE COVER
Student Michael Vermeulen '12 stands atop a peak in the Pensacola Mountains of Antarctica. Photo by Claire Todd.

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here & now



Student survey ranks PLU among the best

Every few years, PLU participates in a national survey to assess the student experience. How effective are student services? Do the students like – or use – facility improvements? What about student programming?

According to 1,045 PLU students surveyed this past October, the answers are very positive. And compared to data gathered nationally from 400 four-year private institutions, PLU stands among the best.

Laura Majovski, vice president for student life, attributes the high ratings to “very dedicated, deliberate work and a significant investment of resources by a broad group of people on campus.”

Students gave high ratings to faculty

excellence and academic experience, and to the engaged, positive atmosphere of campus. Also highly ranked were the staff across campus, including those in the admission, financial aid and registrar offices.

Also rated above the national average was the university’s commitment to under-represented populations, and to students with disabilities.

Safety and security was rated more positively than in previous years, although this scale remains the only one rated below the national average.

Students rated PLU above the national average in 10 out of 12 categories:

- instructional effectiveness
- academic advising
- registration effectiveness
- service excellence
- student centeredness
- campus climate
- campus life
- campus support services
- concern for the individual
- recruitment and financial aid

Within the category, Campus Safety officers and their response to emergencies consistently receive high marks.

“Overall, the results of the survey are positive and encouraging,” Majovski said. “Where deficiencies have been identified, the university remains committed to improvement.”

The Student Satisfaction Inventory is the primary tool used by PLU – and many other universities – to assess the effectiveness of campus services.

PLU has administered the survey eight times since 1996.



New bloom on the Rose Window

Eastvold Auditorium began a significant renovation this winter, thanks in part to a monumental gift by alumna and former regent Karen Hille Phillips

'55. (See page 12 for more information.)

Among the many improvements is the removal, refurbishing and reinstallation, in late March, of PLU's most iconic symbol – the Rose Window. To see a photo essay of the careful removal of the Rose Window, visit www.plu.edu/newbloom.

Students prepare for 'Relay for Life'

Once again, PLU students are busily preparing for the annual Relay For Life fundraiser, set to take place this year on April 29-30, 2011, at the PLU athletic track. The event, which encourages students, staff, faculty and members of the PLU community to walk over an 18-hour period as a way of raising money for the American Cancer Society, brings about \$35,000 per year in donations. This year, with a goal of \$38,000, the committee set the bar even higher.

"Relay For Life is an event to honor survivors, both near and far. With energy and excitement, we invite PLU students, faculty, staff, friends, and families to join us both on the track as well as in our fund-raising efforts," said Melanie Deane '11, Relay For Life co-chair.

To learn more about this year's Relay For Life event, view their "Purple Glove" video, and to learn how to donate and get involved, visit plurelay.org.

Faculty and staff honored for excellence

PLU faculty and staff members were honored this past December at PLU's annual Christmas Luncheon. Four members of the PLU staff were honored for their superior work and dedication: Angie Hambrick (director, Diversity Center, Student Involvement and Leadership) Rebecca Rumpza (office supervisor and Residential Life facilities coordinator), Darren Struthers (senior Web developer, Digital Media Center), and Charry Benston (assistant director, Wang Center).

In addition, four faculty members were honored as Faculty Excellence Awards recipients. The recipients were nominated and selected by their peers, signifying their high regard among those who know them well. This year's awards went to Marianne Taylor (associate professor of psychology), Rick Barot (assistant professor of English), Rebecca Wilkin (assistant professor of



2010 Carol Quigg Award winners from I&TS

French), and Claire Todd (visiting assistant professor of geosciences and environmental studies).

Also at the luncheon, this year's Carol Sheffels Quigg Award for Excellence and Innovation were announced. The award, which seeks to honor those who foster a climate of innovation and excellence in their daily work, was awarded to three groups: The Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Information and Technology Services and, jointly, the Diversity Center, Student Involvement and Leadership and Residential Life.

SAVE THE DATE

Homecoming October 14-16

Affinity Reunions:

- > School of Nursing
- > Diversity Center
- > Class Reunions 6's & 1's

continued



Jenny Snipstead '11

Student wins Folgers jingle contest

This past fall, Jenny Snipstead '11 and her band mates – called “the Ethan Thompson Band” – spent a whirlwind week in Los Angeles recording a new jingle for Folgers coffee. The honor – and the \$25,000 top prize – was a result of a contest sponsored by the coffee company. Her band’s jingle was picked as one of the top 10 out of 1,000 submissions, and a subsequent video performance vaulted them into the top five.

Early this winter, Snipstead and the

rest of the Kalispell, Mont., based band, learned their jingle was voted the winner. A television spot featuring their song started playing nationally in January. To see the video of Snipstead and band mates performing the winning entry, visit www.plu.edu/folgers.

ROTC program among nation’s best

Each year, one ROTC program representing each of the eight U.S. Army Brigades is named a recipi-

ent of the MacArthur Award, named for General Douglas MacArthur. This year, PLU’s program earned the honor representing the U.S. Army’s Eighth Brigade.

“The nation has recognized the program at PLU as one of the top nationally,” said Lt. Col. Jason K. Shrader, professor of military science, U.S. Army ROTC.

The Army ROTC battalions selected for the awards were the most successful of the command’s 273 units in accomplishing the mission of training and commissioning the majority of the lieutenants entering the U.S. Army.

Nearly 120 PLU students are cadets in the PLU Army ROTC program, including six from the graduating class who are distinguished military graduates.

Another successful J-Term, here and away

This past January, 22 classes took place somewhere other than the PLU campus. As part of J-Term, the month-long term between fall and spring semesters, nearly 300 students studied off campus in places like Greece, India or Neah Bay, Wash. And for those students who didn’t get the chance to study away – and even for those who did – PLU brought the world to campus. On February 15-16, PLU hosted a campus-wide event called World Conversations, which gives students and faculty an opportunity to share with the community what they learned and experienced through study away. To see more about the event, visit www.plu.edu/wangcenter.





Sara Main '11

Volunteer Center advances tradition of service

On the first floor of Ramstad Hall is the Volunteer Center, a small office where big things happen.

"A lot of students want to volunteer, but they don't know how to get started," said Hannah Reece '12, co-director of the Volunteer Center. She and co-director Sara Main '11 love to point students in the right direction.

The Volunteer Center connects students with agencies and organizations throughout the area. There are no limits to what students can find through the Volunteer Center, Reece said. Whatever time a student can commit is needed and appreciated, whether it's just an hour a month - or more.

There are opportunities in schools, in hospitals or even environmental projects like creek restoration - Reece's favorite. Whatever a student's passion is - Reece and Main will help find a good match.


Volunteering is important at PLU - it is a key component of the Lutheran tradition of service. In fact, many professors incorporate service learning in their courses, allowing students to experience the world through service and connect it to their academic studies.

School of Business celebrates 50 years

This March saw PLU's School of Business turning 50. The school, its alumni and current students and professors celebrated the milestone on March 12, 2011, at Hotel Murano in Tacoma. Founding deans Dwight Zulauf and Gundar King were honored, as the theme for the evening centered



around "Lead. Innovate. Succeed."

Distinguished alumni spoke at the event and were featured in a video of how the school helped them achieve their dreams. Current students also spoke on how their training at PLU will help them accomplish their goals in the future. 

ACCOLADES

Anna Leon-Guerrero, professor of sociology, has a new textbook, "Social Problems: Community, Policy and Social Action," scheduled for publication in 2011 by Pine Forge Press/Sage Publication.

Nathalie op de Beeck, associate professor of English, published "Suspended Animation - Children's Picture Books and the Fairy Tale of Modernity," in November 2010 (University of Minnesota Press). The book provides an innovative analysis of children's picture books from the interwar period in America.



Maria Chavez-Pringle, assistant professor of political science, was recently elected to the executive council of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association.



Robert Ericksen '67, professor of history and Kurt Mayer Chair of Holocaust Studies, will have his chapter, "Protagonists: Protestants," appear in the "The Oxford Handbook on the Holocaust," published by Oxford University Press, 2010.



Tamara Williams, professor of Hispanic studies, co-edited with Leopoldo Bernucci the volume, "Literatura a

ciencia cierta: Homenaje a Cedomil Goic," published by Juan de la Cuesta Hispanic Monographs, 2010.

Loren J. Anderson, PLU president, was quoted in The Journal of Higher Education in the article "When Leading a College in Tough Times, Getting Faculty Support Is Crucial," published January 6, 2011.

Wendelyn Shore, professor of psychology, **Amber Dehne Baillon**, assistant director of Student Involvement and Leadership, and **Eva Johnson**, dean of Student Development and director of Student Involvement and Leadership, collaborated on the article "The Pedagogy of Event Planning: Facilitating First-Year College Students' Reflective Learning," published in the Journal of College and Character (Vol. 11, No. 4, Nov. 2010). The article considers the impact of PLU's EXPLORE! retreat on the development and education of first-year students.

life of the mind

A day in the life of PLU's Antarctic geologists

Story and photos by Claire Todd, visiting assistant professor of geosciences

Funded by a \$125,000 National Science Foundation grant, geosciences professor Claire Todd, PLU geosciences student Michael Vermeulen '12, and four other researchers traveled to Antarctica this past winter to study deglaciation – that is, how fast ice has been melting – over the last millennia.

The researchers traveled by C-130 cargo plane to a location in the Pensacola Mountains 1,000 miles away from McMurdo Station, the home of the U.S. Antarctic Program. From December 16, 2010, through January 17, 2011, the six researchers lived out on the ice, in tents, hundreds of miles from the nearest living being.

The group mapped and sampled glacial deposits in the area, thereby tracking the thinning history of the Weddell Sea Sector of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet. The goal for Todd and her team was to gain insight into ice sheet dynamics, and the history of sea level contribution from this sector of the ice sheet.

"Mac Ops, Mac Ops, Mac Ops! This is India 1! 5! 6! How copy?"

These are the words that woke me and PLU geosciences student Michael Vermeulen '12 most mornings during our geologic expedition in Antarctica this winter. All field camps participating in the U.S. Antarctic Program are required to check in with McMurdo Operations ("Mac Ops") once a day at a previously agreed-upon time. Each field camp is associated with a project number; ours is I-156. Located 1,000 miles from McMurdo Station, our project's camp was the most remote of the 2010-2011



Claire Todd, visiting assistant professor of geosciences.

field season, and it could be very difficult to reach McMurdo using our high frequency radio. The most common response to the broadcast above was:

"Field Party calling Mac Ops, you are weak and barely readable. Repeat. Weak and barely readable. How copy?"

This check-in process began all 32 days we spent in the field. Some morn-

ings we were forced to use our satellite phone to meet our morning check-in deadline of 8 a.m. Meeting this deadline is our most important priority each morning; a missed check-in would launch an incredibly costly, continent-wide search effort within an hour of the scheduled time.

Once check-in was complete, breakfast could be fully under way! All cooking and eating happened in our only "indoor" communal space – the cook tent. Cooking and cleaning duties rotated between the six members of our field party. With no running water, the most important breakfast task was melting snow. The resulting boiling water would meet our coffee and oatmeal needs, as well as fill our thermoses with water to use for instant soup and tea throughout our fieldwork that day. Depending on the mood and ambition of the cook on duty, additional tasks



The location of the team's first campsite near the Schmidt Hills.

could include making pancakes or "cheesy-bagels," – a field-camp delicacy – or even sausage or bacon. Well-fed and well-rested, the team would then discuss our plans for the day.

The single most important factor determining our activities each day was weather. While temperature and wind speed might affect our overall comfort, we were most concerned with visibility and surface contrast. Visibility is how far in front of us we can see. Fog and windblown snow are some of the things that can result in poor visibility. Without good visibility, we would be unable to safely operate snowmobiles or create accurate maps of the area. Surface contrast is caused by sunlight interacting with the snow surface and creating shadows; these shadows help us distinguish surface features such as depressions that may indicate subsurface crevasses, or cracks in the ice below. On overcast days, clouds block sunlight from reaching the snow surface, and there are no shadows we can use to identify features in the snow. These conditions are called "flat light,"



Seth Campbell brings back snow to melt for water.

and make it difficult and sometimes dangerous to travel over new terrain. Out of 32 days, we spent six in camp due to poor visibility and low surface contrast.

Once our plans were determined, we would pack our lunches and field gear and head off on snowmobiles to our agreed-upon work locations. Typically, we would work in two groups of three.

Michael's and my team would climb mountains rising up to 2,000 feet above the ice surface to collect samples from glacial deposits. Due to difficult travel conditions across rock and snow, most days we would walk less than five miles. The second team would spend the day on snowmobiles dragging an ice-penetrating radar system to identify features beneath the ice surface. For safety reasons, each team had to adhere to the plan set up during the morning meet- >>

Kat Huybers and Greg Balco switchback up a steep portion of an icefall. (Photo by Seth Campbell)



life of the mind

continued

ing, exploring only those locations discussed with the team. We would also check-in with each other at noon each day using hand-held radios or satellite phones. These precautions would allow one team to locate another in the event of an emergency.

As the glacial geology team, our goal was to explore rocks left behind when the West Antarctic Ice Sheet retreated and thinned to its current size. This retreat occurred over the last 10,000 years due to long-term global factors, such as changes in the earth's orbit. Providing a record of this long-term retreat will help us place more recent, decade-scale climate change into context. Ice sheets leave behind clues about its past, by eroding bedrock beneath them and incorporating chunks of this bedrock within the ice. These pieces of bedrock are then transported and smoothed by ice flow. When ice thins or retreats, these smoothed, transported rocks are left behind on mountainsides emerging from the thinning ice. We use these rocks to track the rate and extent of ice-sheet retreat.

From Left to right: **Michael Vermeulen '12 (PLU)**, Greg Baico (Berkeley Geochronology Center), Kat Huybers (University of Washington), Chris Simmons (Mountaineer), **Professor Claire Todd (PLU)** and Seth Campbell (University of Maine).



Survival bags were always nearby during travel.

While debating which rock samples we should collect and mapping past ice-flow directions, we would also have to work hard to maintain our body temperature. Adjusting clothing layers, drinking hot water, snacking and moving were the primary ways we would keep our body temperature elevated.

While temperatures never dipped below zero degrees Fahrenheit, the wind could make it very difficult to stay warm.

While challenging, these work-filled days are also exhilarating. Most mornings we climbed up to a summit over new terrain, noting new rock types and adding glacial geologic clues to our





Michael Vermeulen and Chris Simmons play chess in the kitchen.

understanding of the ice sheet's past. Reaching the summit would mark the midpoint of our day, and would provide spectacular 360-degree views of mountain ranges flooded by ice. Days without wind would offer utterly noiseless conditions, which we happily filled with hypotheses of past ice sheet elevations and flow directions, and more philosophical musings about finding ourselves on such a beautiful and remote mountain top.

After about eight hours of field work, we would typically return to camp around 5 or 6 p.m. with a new pile of up to 10 rocks in row. The snowmobile trip back home was often the coldest time of day for us; it is especially hard to stay warm when you're sitting still. One evening I returned to camp with eight layers on, and I was still fighting to stay warm.


As in the morning, the first order of business upon returning to camp is providing hot water. The team member on dinner duty would begin by cranking up our cook stoves and melting snow. We would all meet in the cook

tent, snack on crackers and cheese, and share our stories from the day. Our dinners were luxurious! We had an incredibly well-stocked freezer, a 1-meter-deep pit dug in the snow outside of the cook tent. Main dinner courses included salmon and halibut fillets, and shrimp. For side dishes, we had a long list of frozen vegetables to choose from, as well as choices of rice, pasta, couscous, tortillas, pita bread, and even quinoa! Aside from the bustle of meal preparation, the cook tent was never quiet, and most commonly filled with laughter. Conversation would wander from scientific topics to story-swapping, to books we're reading, to singing favorite songs, to post-field-season plans and beyond. The only six people within hundreds of miles, we were not only



Michael Vermeulen makes notes of striations and sample locations on satellite maps.

work colleagues, but also each other's friends and family.

Finally, we would say our good nights and head to our tents for a much-needed night's sleep. Even with the 24-hour daylight of the Antarctic summer, we rarely had trouble falling asleep. Several hours later, we would begin a new day's work. 



Approaching "home" after a day in the field.



Karen's Ritzville High School graduation photo, 1950



Karen, brother Bruce, and her mother and father on the Ritzville, Wash., farm



Karen's Nursing School graduation photo



Karen and her mother, Laura, on Christmas 1964

By Greg Brewis



Karen Hille Phillips

A lifetime of service to others

UPON FIRST MEETING KAREN HILLE PHILLIPS '55 you probably would have found her to be nothing more than a demure, devout, single nurse of modest means – a homebody with a kindly way about her, reflective of her roots as a farm girl. And you would have been quite wrong.

Karen Phillips, who passed away last fall at age 78, was all of those things and much, much more.

She was modest and shy, but well known for her charming smile and distinctive laugh. Her friends say she had a keen intellect and was a voracious reader of everything from faculty authors to newspapers and periodicals. And, they say, she was just plain fun to be around.

She was a deeply religious Christian and member of her church, but very private, almost ascetic, in her expression of faith.

She was single for most of her life, but had a decades-long relationship with J.W. Phillips. They married only after retiring from long careers in medicine and health care.

She was a PLC nursing graduate, trained in hands-on care, but came to establish and manage outpatient clinics for heart, cancer, Alzheimer's and AIDS during her 30 years at the University of Washington Medical Center.

She was raised on her family's wheat farm in Ritzville, Wash., but later in life helped J.W. manage – and after his death managed on her own – extensive holdings in agribusiness, commercial real estate, fine art and collectibles.

As a girl she was simply dedicated to her home life, parents and school work, but later in life blossomed to become a sophisticated global traveler. She was always eager to share those experiences with students and others.

She always lived modestly, but during her lifetime gave more than \$10 million to her alma mater – and her bequest to PLU may exceed an additional \$10 million. Her gifts have supported scholarships, capital improvements and the endowment.

“PLU was so important to Karen,” said Loren J. Anderson, university president. “I suppose that MaryAnn and I came to personalize her relationship with the university. So much so, that each of the many letters we received from her over the years ended with the note, ‘You two take care of my university.’”

Anderson said that Phillips would likely be uncomfortable with all of the attention that is now coming her way. He tells the story of standing before 500 people in a packed banquet hall to announce that PLU had received an anonymous gift of \$12 million.

The audience jumped to its feet in cheers and applause, including Phillips who acted surprised as she joined in. In fact, she was the anonymous donor.

“I’m sure that Karen would rather be remembered as the quiet, humble, selfless, consistent and caring person that she was,” Anderson said.

Nursing colleague and longtime friend Sally Flaherty said, “Karen loved J.W. very, very much and, after he died, PLU became the love of her life.”

Flaherty said that Phillips’ focus on the university was an expression of how “she always cared deeply about others and thought she could make a difference in the world. I think she did.”

Her awareness of the wider world developed over time.

“Growing up, Karen was somewhat of a homebody,” said her brother, Bruce Hille '57. “But she always knew that she would become a nurse.”

Phillips’ perspective began to change when she became close friends with J.W., who was a physician at the hospital where she worked.

“J.W. took his mother traveling the globe and Karen would go along as a companion to both of them,” Hille said.

“As the years went by, the two of them, Karen and J.W., continued to travel together. They didn’t live together, but they lived as together,” he said.

continued on next page

Karen Hille Phillips

A lifetime of service to others

Phillips was not close to her brother and his family later in life, but he was part of her wedding party in Ritzville in 1996.

"She asked me to be her matron of honor," Hille said, laughing. "That's right. I stood up for Karen. It was the happiest moment of her life and a wonderful occasion for both of them."

"We were absolutely shocked when Karen got married," said Pat Smith, one of a group of retired nursing colleagues who meet once a month for lunch.

Another member of the group, Shirley Hanson '60 agreed, "Karen was a very private person and spent most of her life single. We were flabbergasted when she married J.W."

They both knew that Karen had been close to J.W. over the years and that they had traveled together. "But then all of a sudden they were married! I guess he just decided it was time," Smith said.

Phillips' cousin, Mark Meyer, said she was very happy having a marriage partner finally. "The two of them together were fun to see. They had a good relationship. And it was clear that J.W. was very willing to pass on to her the responsibility of being the steward of the estate he had created," he said.

"Karen was not the kind of person who ever called attention to herself, particularly regarding the size of her estate. I think she would like to be remembered for her heart for education and for the values of young people who have the ideals and the commitment to build lives," Meyer said.

Phillips' Mercer Island neighbor, Ron Stevenson, agrees.

"I recall Karen speaking in just loving terms about PLU. She would talk about the young men from the college who came to pick her up and take her to board meetings," Stevenson said. "She so enjoyed sitting with them and discussing their dreams and their aspirations. She found it wonderful to be around young people."

One of those young men, former ASPLU president Willie Painter '06, said Phillips would want to be remembered as a "servant leader."

"During the various stages of her life Karen had limited financial resources and then almost unlimited resources," Painter said. "But throughout her life, whether with time or money, she made sure that she gave of herself back to her church, her nursing profession and her university."

"Everything about Karen spoke to her service and leadership. She would be proud to be remembered in that way." □

Setting the stage for a new era of the arts at PLU

Renovations will transform Eastvold Hall into the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in 2013.



Due to the extraordinary generosity of Karen Hille Phillips, Pacific Lutheran University has begun a renovation project leading to a new performing arts center, to be named after the former regent.

"Karen Hille Phillips cared deeply about the University, and began that relationship decades ago, when PLC President Seth Eastvold visited her family on a fundraising trip to the family's eastern Washington farm," said President Loren J. Anderson. "It is really appropriate that her estate will fund the renovation of a building and program that she cared so much about."

Within the Phillips Center, Eastvold Auditorium will retain its name in memory of Seth Eastvold, and Tower Chapel remains as a donor naming opportunity.

When completed, the \$20 million, 47,500-square-foot performing arts center renovation will literally transform the stage for PLU's performing arts programs.

PHASE 1, which is now under way, will include the construction of a new studio theater and set-construction shop in the north wing of the building. The cost of this phase is \$4.93 million and is fully funded by the gifts received for the capital campaign to date. This phase is due to wrap up in August. The lead gift for this project was from Phillips.

PHASE 2 will include work on the main auditorium, Tower Chapel, theater office, the building's entry and lobby spaces. Work on the elevator, heating and mechanical systems will also be included in this phase. All construction will be within the existing footprint of the building. Groundbreaking for this \$10 million phase is set for May 2012, with a tentative completion date set for a year later.

Karen with PLU President Loren J. Anderson





Karen Hille



Karen, age 3 or 4



Karen as a Ritzville High School student



Karen, left, at a PLC picnic on Spanaway Lake

Spanaway Lake - School Picnic - 52



Karen and J.W. on their wedding day

WHY DOES SOCIAL JUSTICE MATTER?

By Kari Plog '11
with additional reporting
by Steve Hansen

Students take leadership roles to help understand issues around power, privilege and inclusiveness

In the bottom floor of PLU's University Center, students fill the overstuffed couches – some studying, some texting their friends, some just hanging out. It's what happens everyday at the Diversity Center.

The "D Center," as it is known, is a

great place to hang out. It is also a place where students can focus on big issues – like power, privilege, equity and inclusiveness.

It can be both. In fact, that's the whole point. The D Center, in the words of Director Angie Hambrick, is intended as an equitable commu-

nity that can serve students in any way they see fit. Hambrick's role at PLU serves to support students who are learning about identity, culture and equity.

That's important, said Hambrick, because students don't want to be associated with simply one group



CHELSEA PUTNAM '12

Hometown: E. Wenatchee, Wash.

Major: Fine arts

When Chelsea Putnam thinks back to high school and her exposure to diversity issues, one word comes to mind: sheltered. "I had no background or experience," she recalled. "I just knew I wanted to make a difference."

All that changed when she came to PLU.

Putnam was introduced to the Rieke Scholarship program, which is awarded to students who are committed to raising awareness about issues related to diversity, multiculturalism and social justice. It was then that Putnam realized her passion.

"Being a Rieke Scholar absolutely opened my eyes to a world much larger than

myself," she said. For her, that meant becoming familiar with cultures and traditions that she never saw back home.

As a diversity advocate, Putnam's job is to oversee the 40-plus Rieke scholars on campus, and help them find ways to grow, just as she has.

"My goal is to help them learn the importance of social justice in a smaller community because it's the first step to promoting social justice on a larger scale," she said.

Putnam said many students choose not to get involved because of the associations with the word "diversity." Part of her job as a diversity advocate is to remind people that everyone is diverse – it includes everything from culture, sexual orientation, religion, and even economic factors.

"Diversity doesn't mean you have to look different," she said. "What we are trying to do is gather people who are diverse in much more complex ways than appearance."

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or another. "They don't want to be put in one box." She said. "They have multiple identities, and they want to talk about them. So it is our job to talk about and honor those identities."

The ways that PLU students engage in these important issues are numerous. Some of the engagement is through programmed events like the "Global Get-Down," - where people of different cultures present dance and song, or "Taste of Faith," where stu-

dents go to different houses of worship, like a mosque, synagogue or a Baha'i Faith temple. Leadership opportunities are also made available to students in support of social justice awareness. (Called Diversity Advocates, you can meet this year's four student advocates in these pages.)

In many ways, the programs that run through the D Center have their

CARRIE HYLANDER '12

Hometown: Seattle, Wash.

Major: Hispanic studies and global studies

When Carrie Hylander wrote about diversity issues in her entrance essay to PLU, her admissions counselor told her that she would be the perfect candidate for the Rieke Scholarship.

Given that connection, it makes sense that Hylander works with the program "Word Up," which focuses on inner-group dialogues about social justice and equity, with emphasis on first-year students.

"We learn about the language we use and the impact that language has on other people," she said. "We focus on who we are and how that effects what we're saying."

Hylander said talking about these issues is important at PLU because it enriches the learning experiences students have in the classroom. "College is

more than just taking class and completing a major," she said. "It's about learning who we are and our place in the world."

Hylander said the Diversity Center helps her apply what she learns inside the classroom, outside in the real world. The focus, she said, is on action.

"There are so many opportunities at PLU to think about all of these different aspects of our lives and really think critically of how to better ourselves and our society," Hylander said.

"Don't just talk the talk, walk the walk," she added.



WHY DOES SOCIAL JUSTICE MATTER?

root in a scholarship made available by former PLU President William O. Rieke. Started in 1988, the Rieke Leadership Award is made available to students who are interested in social justice and diversity issues. Any student can apply - those who have always had a passion for social justice issues, and some who have had

little or no experience with it, but simply want to learn more. Hambrick says there are typically 30 to 40 Rieke Scholars a year, receiving \$1,500 to \$3,000 a year.

Rieke Scholars, in turn, work with the D Center to program events that engage the entire student body on issues of diversity and tolerance. For instance, 14 student

groups help create the "Tunnel of Oppression" where participants navigate through a maze of simulations involving topics as diverse as the drug wars in Mexico or what it might be like to attend a college where 80 percent of the student body is students of color. The idea, according to Hambrick, is to get participants to experience a point-of-view they might not otherwise

MAURICE ECKSTEIN '11

Hometown: San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago
Major: Communication

Maurice Eckstein is a first-generation college student. The senior, from Trinidad and Tobago, learned about social justice indirectly after coming to PLU.

"I didn't really know a lot about social justice before I got here," he said. "When I came here I was forced to become aware of it."

Eckstein said that he felt thrust into the realm of studying social justice when he realized he could identify with the African-American community because of his appearance. Back home, in his very culturally diverse Caribbean nation, his appearance didn't cause him to stand out. Here, that wasn't always the case. It allowed him to look at issues in ways he might have never considered before.

For instance, Eckstein has been wrestling with concept of privilege - the idea that some people have advantages in life that others do not. The most obvious example might be access to a university education.

"College was not an automatic thing for me," he said.

It isn't for a lot of people. And by simply looking at his - and other's - opportunities through that lens has been important to how he sees the world.

"It's absolutely necessary to pay attention to this aspect of understand-

ing issues," Eckstein said. "I'm trying to ensure [what students] bring to the world is genuine."

Eckstein helps students from around the world acclimate to the PLU community, and he is always thinking of new ways to advocate for them. He plays a primary role in organizing multicultural night and "Global Get-Down," where students can showcase a piece of their culture and learn about other cultures.



I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW A LOT ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE BEFORE I GOT HERE, WHEN I CAME HERE I WAS FORCED TO BECOME AWARE OF IT.

experience. This year, 369 people took part in the event.

In its third year, the Social Action and Leadership (SAL) wing is another way the university promotes social justice issues. Set in Stuen Hall, about 30 students make up a unique community that seeks to develop leaders who want to have a better understanding of their own beliefs and values – and then are willing to put them to the service of others. For instance, this spring, members of the SAL wing were busy organizing a discussion

group with a faculty member on the changes in North Africa and the Middle East.

This spring was also an exciting time for the D Center – they organized their first “Alternative Spring Break,” in which students took a Civil Rights Tour of Georgia and Alabama. Hambrick who was one of the leaders of the trip, said it helped students better understand the Civil rights movement – and its connection to the issues of the day, like gay rights and immigration issues. [5]

ANGELA PIERCE '12

Hometown: Tacoma, Wash.
Major: Social work

Angela Pierce is the daughter of a Filipino mother and a Caucasian father. She never saw herself as white.

At some point, however, Pierce realized other people did see her as white. She noticed when she saw people treating her different than they did her mother. It was then she knew she would be an advocate for social justice – even if, as she said, “I didn’t know the language [of social justice] yet.”

PLU helped her figure that out.

As a diversity advocate, Pierce plays a primary role in coordinating the Students of Color Retreat, which is in its seventh year at PLU. It is a chance for students to come together and talk about their experiences with identity development. As a student who struggled with some of the same issues, Pierce wanted to make sure there was a safe place for students to discuss such issues.

Pierce is happy to help students find that comfortable place, and PLU’s Diversity Center offers the chance to

do just that. Pierce said it is the perfect place to come and learn about yourself – and others.

“Come and hang out, and you will find something to get involved in,” she said. “Just show up.”

For Pierce, there is no wrong way to get involved.

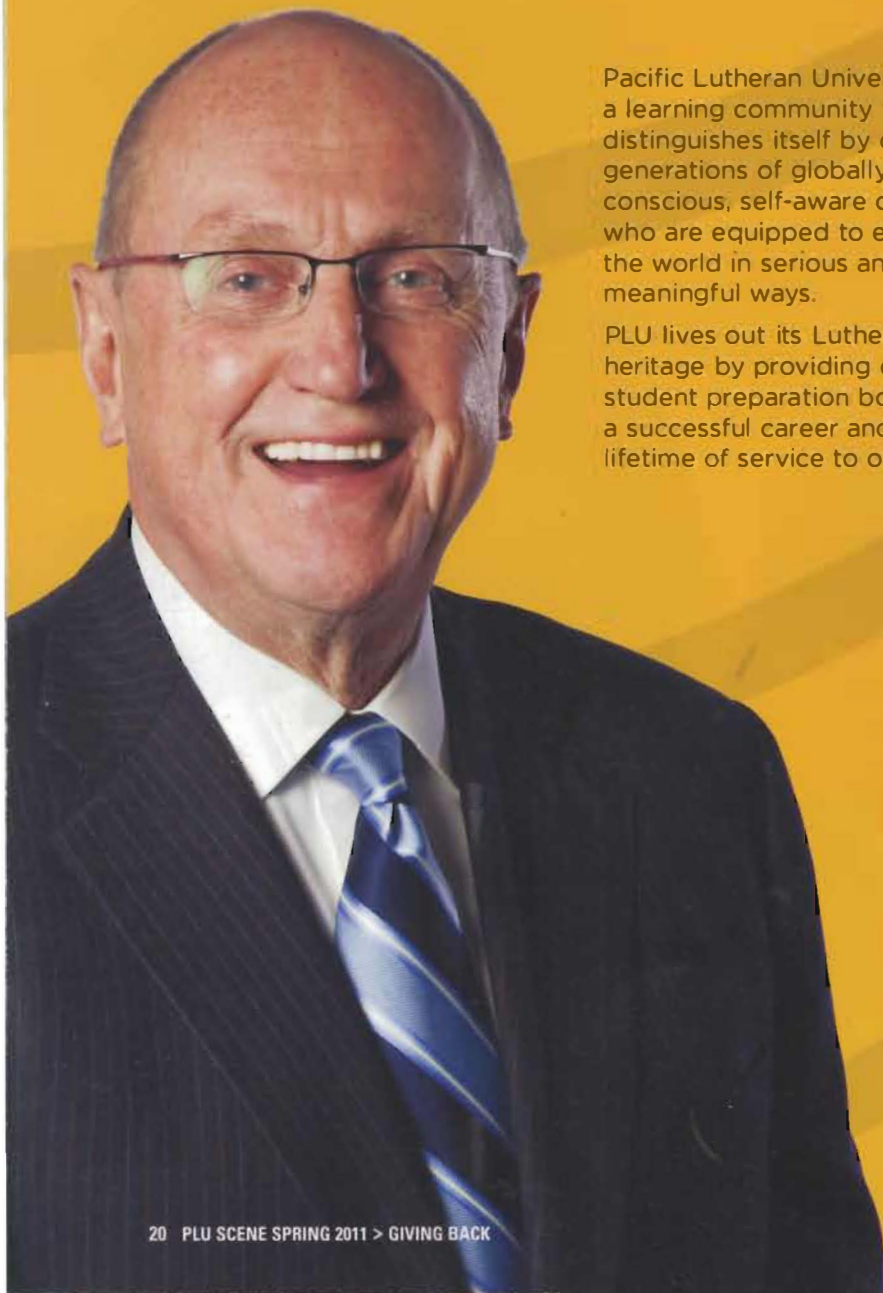
“Social justice to me is speaking up for those who are left unheard – and helping others find their place,” she said. “You can get involved just by speaking up in class.”



giving back

A University of Distinction

“Our stature is measured by how we serve students and how they in turn serve the world.” -PLU President Loren J. Anderson



Pacific Lutheran University is a learning community that distinguishes itself by developing generations of globally conscious, self-aware citizens who are equipped to engage the world in serious and meaningful ways.

PLU lives out its Lutheran heritage by providing each student preparation both for a successful career and for a lifetime of service to others.

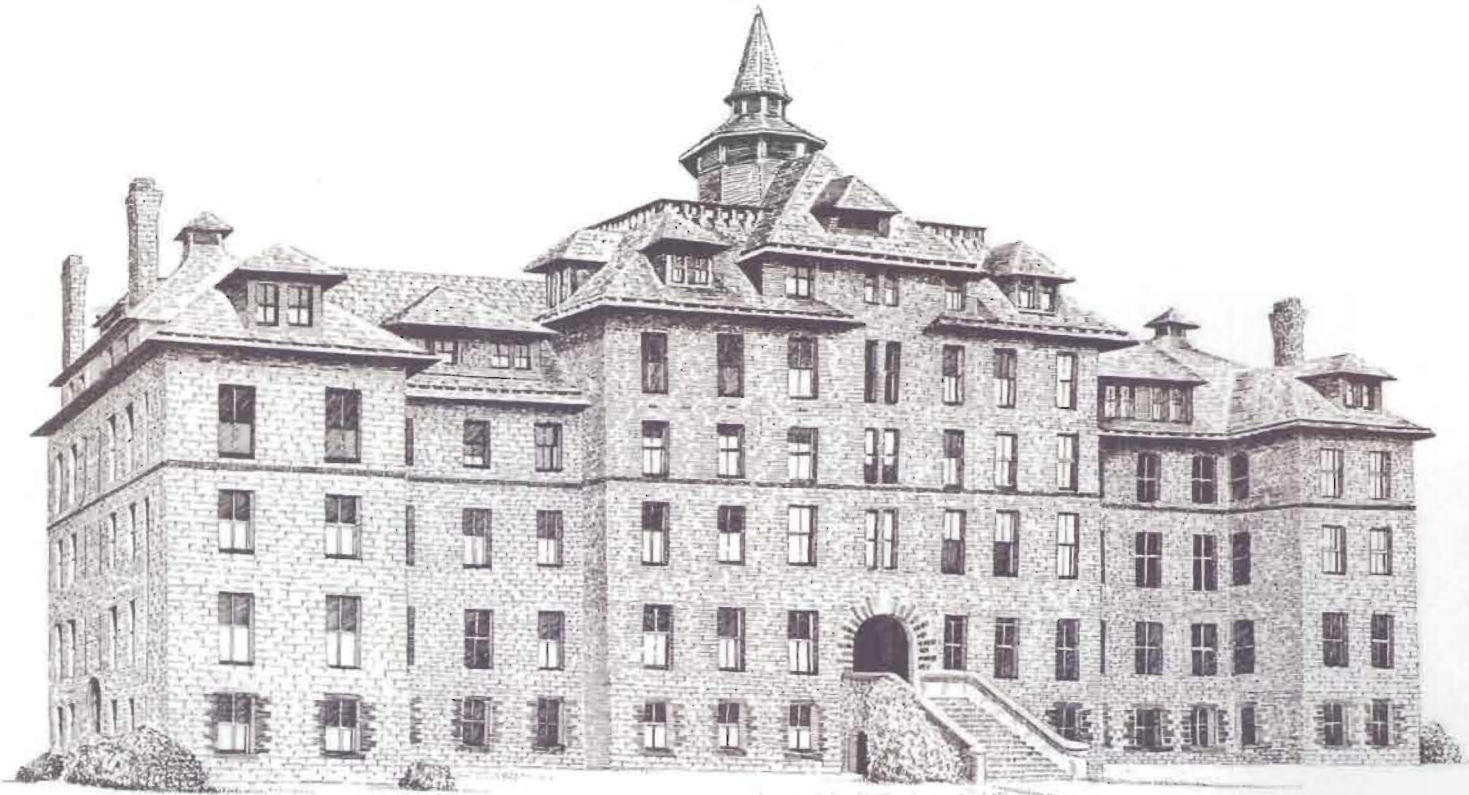
An innovator in values-based, globally-focused education, the campus community is committed to a set of priorities that enliven its mission of serving the world. We now invite others to invest financially in the PLU experience and the priorities of Engage the World: The Campaign for PLU.

www.plu.edu/campaign



Engage
the World

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PLU



HERITAGE SOCIETY MARKS 30 YEARS ➔ OF AIDING PLU'S LONG-TERM FUTURE ◀

Thirty years ago Gerry Evanson '63, Lori (Hefty '58) Steen, Jim Sparks '61, Director of Planned Giving Ed Larson '57, PLU President William O. Rieke and a few others got together to solve a problem. At the time, PLU did not have much of an endowment. And they knew that, for the university to prosper, that needed to change.

So the group initiated PLU's Heritage Society, which honors people who have made estate-planning provisions on behalf of the university. These deferred plans include planning vehicles such as bequests, charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts.

"We really wanted to focus on the 'heritage' of the school," Evanson said. "The people I've met here have been life-long friends; my time here was a life-changing event. It made sense to make plans to give to the university [through our will]."

Ed Larson, executive director of charitable estate planning, thinks back on those days, and the need for a long-term strategy. "We knew we were late bloomers in terms of endowment," he said. "This was a big step in solving that problem."

Now, 30 years later, people like Evanson, Larson and others have been

an integral part of PLU's long-term financial success. The Heritage Society now includes more than 400 families with documented deferred gifts totaling approximately \$100 million.

Larson also notes that many who have named PLU as a beneficiary in their will have not notified the university. He encourages those people to contact the university, if for no other reason than so PLU can "express our gratitude" to them.

And it isn't simply the older generation that is getting involved. Jillian Foss '10 thinks the same way. Jillian knows she's unusual – most 2010 graduates aren't thinking about making a will, let alone a deferred gift to their university. But after she finished PLU, she had a little money left over from what was given to her by her grandfather, and decided to make a deferred gift to PLU through her will. She knew she could help PLU continue to have long-term financial stability, not only after she graduated, but into perpetuity.

"It just made sense to me," Foss said. "I don't want my degree at PLU to lose its value."

Members of the Heritage Society include those who have committed to

one or more of the following deferred gifts: bequest, charitable remainder trust, charitable gift annuity, life insurance, gift of residence or farm with a retained life estate, or making PLU a beneficiary of a retirement account.

Larson said there is the obvious benefit to those who have joined the Heritage Society – the \$100 million in expected gifts. But there is another benefit, too. When people see that others are participating in the long-term financial health of the university, it builds confidence. And others are more inclined to take part.

"It is a testimony to other people," Larson said. "It lets them know that there is other money in the pipeline. And that is great for the university." □

—Steve Hansen

There are many ways to make a gift to PLU through the Heritage Society. Contributions can be made through planned giving vehicles, such as a bequest provision, trust, gift annuity or gift of life insurance. To learn more, please contact Ed Larson or Doug Page at giftplanning@plu.edu or 800-826-0035. Or visit www.plu.edu and click on "Make a Gift."

attaway lutes

Jessie Klauder '11 finds a swimming regimen that treats the whole student



Jessie Klauder '11 made the decision a year ago. During J-Term of her senior year, Klauder would participate in the School of Nursing's first study away program in China, where she would take a class called Traditional Chinese Medicine. As a nursing major, Klauder figured that the class would help round out her education in understanding and treating the whole person.

The decision to spend January in China, however, conflicted with an equally important part of her life. Klauder is a member of the PLU swimming team. And she's no ordinary swimmer – she qualified for the championship finals in five individual events during her first three years at PLU.

While Klauder dove into her studies at the University of Chengdu, learning

how to classify diseases and diagnose patients according to medical theories based on the Chinese concept of yin and yang, across the ocean the PLU women's swim team hosted four Northwest Conference opponents, losing to three of them.

Klauder's desire to study away during her competitive season points to a decision that some Lute student-athletes,

Photo by Carlos Javier Sanchez

and their coaches, face every year: How does the student-athlete balance the personal expectations of being a student with the personal and team expectations of being an athlete?

For Klauder, there was little hesitation.

Growing up in Klamath Falls, Ore., Klauder learned early from her parents, John and Christine, to work hard in both the classroom and in athletic endeavors. But "school always overrode swimming."

Good grades, her parents told her, will get you to college. And good college grades, Klauder knew, would get her into nursing school. She has taken that to heart, earning Dean's List recognition during each of her semesters a PLU and entering her last semester with a 3.71 grade point average.

Over time, Klauder came to understand how academics and athletics at PLU worked together to make her a more rounded individual.

"Watching my nursing buddies being stressed out, it was during my sophomore year I realized that I need swimming because it helped me as a nursing student," Klauder said. "They balance each other really well. For my mental health, swimming is very therapeutic."

Classes and clinical work in her major have caused her to miss a number of team practices over the years. For instance, during her sophomore year, Klauder would miss Tuesday and Thursday workouts because of clinicals. She has worked cooperatively with the PLU coaching staff in making up missed practice time. "If I wouldn't be able to do both," Klauder said, "I wouldn't function as well as an individual."

So when it came to choosing China over a month of competitive swimming, Klauder was committed to her nursing studies.

She spoke to Matt Sellman, himself a former PLU swimmer and the first-year head coach, telling him of her J-Term plans. But when Klauder swam particularly well at the start of the season, Sellman asked her to reconsider her study away plans. Continued hard work, he told Klauder, could lead to her achieving a time good enough to earn a berth at the NCAA Division III national championship meet, a feat that has been accomplished by only one PLU



Jessie Klauder knew her travels in China during the swim season could jeopardize her swimming performance, but it would be great for her total education.

swimmer since 1998.

Even though Klauder admitted that she "would love to get a national cut (qualifying time), I decided to stay on course. Coach was okay with it."

"PLU values the study away program," Sellman explained. "If swimming as a sport didn't fit into that philosophy, we would shoot ourselves in the foot. The swimming program is part of the greater PLU community, and as their coach I want them to have the best experience they can have while they're students at PLU."

There are tradeoffs, Sellman admitted, because of sacrifices made by individual student-athletes and by their teams when the student goes abroad during the season. "The teams lose out on you being there during the competitive stuff a little bit," he said.

Still, Sellman figured Klauder would be true to her word and work out while in China.

"China would not be an easy place to find a pool," Sellman said. "But Jessie was proactive in finding a facility before she went. Follow-through is important, and the only person holding them accountable is themselves."

Before leaving for China, Klauder

asked individuals at the University of Chengdu to find a nearby swimming pool where she could work out. A 25-meter indoor lap pool was found approximately a 40-minute walk from the university. With workout plans provided by Sellman and her father, who had been her youth coach, Klauder usually met her goal of swimming 5,000 meters per workout, primarily in sets based on 100- and 200-yard freestyle and breaststroke.

In addition, daily four-mile runs with a fellow nursing student helped her stay in shape. "I wanted to prove that I was training when I was in China," Klauder said.

After three weeks of intensive class and clinical work, and a one-week tour of China's capital, Beijing, Klauder returned to campus.

In her first meet back, swimming against rival University of Puget Sound, Klauder won two events and registered one of her best collegiate times in the 200-yard freestyle, her signature event.

"I was very surprised," Klauder said of her performance. "I felt really good the whole (practice) week in the water, but taking a chunk out of regular training can really hurt, especially endurance."

Klauder and her teammates then entered the Northwest Conference Championships in late February, a meet that marked the end of Klauder's college career. With the conference meet pushed back two weeks later than past years, Klauder had more time to focus on finishing her collegiate career with some of her best times. And she will get to do something equally important: to train with her teammates.

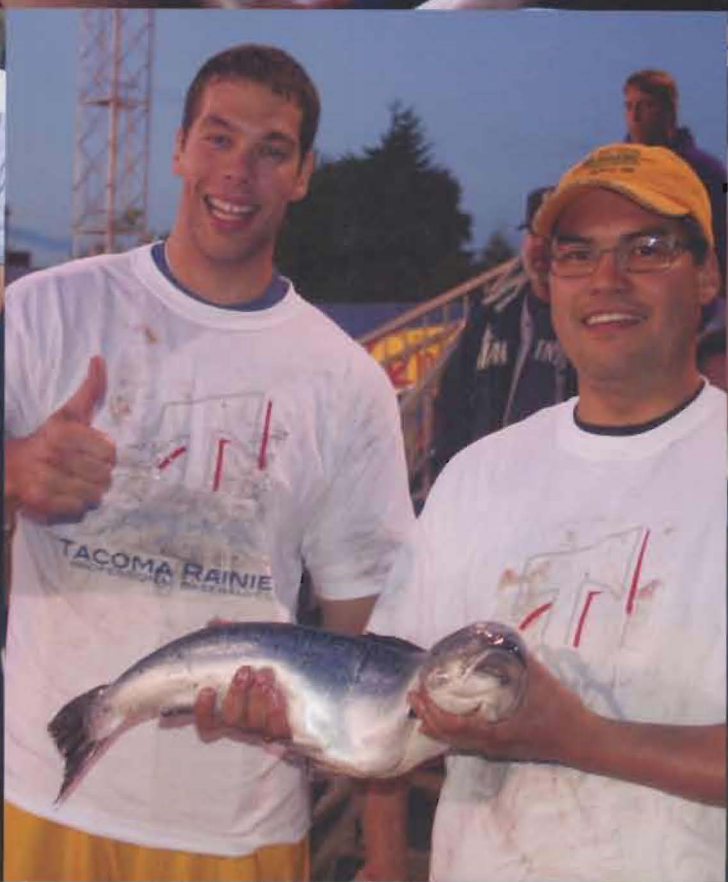
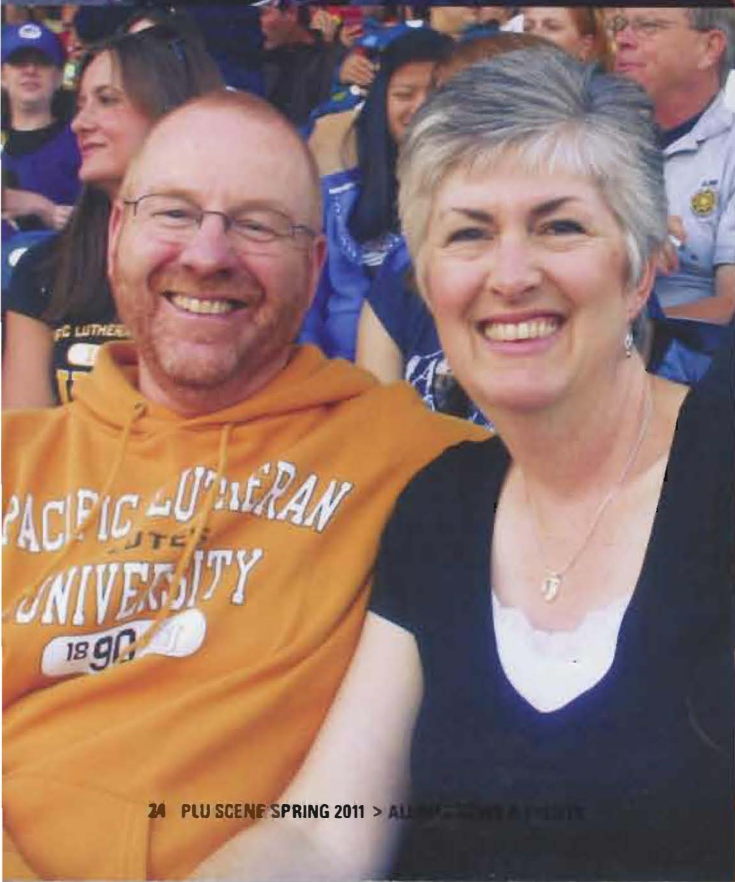
"Not only do I love the sport, I really love the team," Klauder said, noting that she is one of six seniors who are wrapping up four-year stints with the swimming program. Five of those seniors are women. "I have some really close friends, and I'm always going to have that," she said.

And she'll also have the memories of a month spent studying in China. □

Nick Dawson



PLU Night at the Tacoma AUGUST



alumni news & events



Rainiers 12, 2011



August is one of the most beautiful months in the Pacific Northwest. August evenings provide beautiful sunsets, warm temperatures and Tacoma Rainiers baseball.

PLU Night at the Rainiers started several years ago as a way to celebrate our PLU community and the end of summer. In 2010, 250 Lutes enjoyed an evening at the ballpark.

August 12 marks the date of this year's end-of-summer bash, PLU Night at the Rainiers. For only \$10 a person, participants will enjoy admission to the game, a hotdog, soda, chips and viewing of fireworks after the game. Perhaps more exciting than the fireworks, is the total renovation of Cheney Stadium.

"The fact that 250 students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends all came out for the game in 2010 was a big hint to us," said Sumerlin Larsen '01, associate director for Alumni and Constituent Relations. "There's opportunity to get even more of our PLU community involved."

In preparation for this event, a partnership has been forged between the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Student Involvement and Leadership, Student Athletic Advisory Council and the Administrative Staff Council. The goal? To connect our current students, incoming students, alumni, faculty and staff in one big end of summer bash.

This year PLU Night at the Rainiers is dedicated to showcasing PLU. There will be a PLU hospitality tent with lots of Lute mementos, PLU information and friendly smiles will be accessible to all attendees, and the entire evening's program will represent PLU and the best the university has to offer. Everything from the National Anthem to the first pitch and the on-field games between innings will feature Lute talent, participants and programs.

"The Rainiers are thrilled to partner with one of the long standing pillars of the Tacoma community, Pacific Lutheran University. We look forward to engaging the students, faculty, staff and alumni in an environment full of tradition and excitement," said Shane Santman, director of ticket sales for the Tacoma Rainiers.

"This is a really exciting way to continue

to be out in our community, participating in a favorite Tacoma pastime and showcasing the great things PLU is doing," Allison Stephens, director of student engagement, Student Involvement and Leadership said.

"We're excited to connect with our incoming first-year and transfer students several weeks before we'd typically meet them on campus for orientation," Stephens said. "What a great way for them to kickoff their PLU experience: mixing with alumni, faculty and current students before they come to campus to start classes."

With all the festivities already associated with the newly remodeled Cheney Stadium, what would have already been a great event will only get better with a planned 500 Lutes in attendance.

"With opening day rapidly approaching on April 15, the new Cheney Stadium is anxiously awaiting its \$30 million dollar debut," Santman said. "Featuring amenities that you will find at some of baseball's best ballparks, Cheney Stadium is poised to become the crown jewel of the Northwest for all fans to enjoy."

While PLU Night at the Rainiers is an annual program, it has never been programmed or publicized to this extent.

Rich Hines, director of annual giving for the Office of Development attended the game for the first time last summer. He signed up to participate in the salmon toss competition with Andrew Eisentrout '07. When asked about his experience Hines recounted, "We got a total of eight catches, winning that evening's competition. The bounty was some fun prizes - Apple iPod Nanos - and the not-too-badly bruised fish, which grilled up nicely. But most of all, it was fun to just be part of the PLU community on a night when the Lutes won the salmon toss and the Rainiers won the game."

Five hundred tickets are available to the PLU community to watch the Tacoma Rainiers take on the Iowa Cubs. Ticket sales will begin May 1. Tickets can be purchased from the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations for \$10, through www.plualumni.org or by calling 253-535-7415.

continued

Join the Click!



Moving to a new city? Wouldn't it be nice to see if there are other Lutes living there? By joining the online community you can do that and more. Just by doing an advanced search in the online directory you can find all of the alumni who live in your city. You can even take it a step further and search for alumni who live in your city, who have the same major, or who graduated the same year. The online community is a fabulous way to reach out.

There is another great benefit to the online directory: You can search and connect with your old friends, roommates and classmates. We know that it is hard to stay in contact with people over time, but with the online directory, you have a chance to search for former teammates or

e-mail your roommate with whom you may have lost touch.

An additional benefit of the online community is having a permanent e-mail address. The online community will forward your mail to any other account when you sign up for a permanent e-mail address. Imagine having your own name followed by a proud statement of your status like joelute@alumni.plu.edu.

In a recent survey, we were reminded that Class Notes was one of the most widely read sections of Scene magazine. We are so happy to hear that you enjoy it! Please continue to keep us updated on what's happening in your life. We want to know all about your recent marriage or

promotion, and of course we love to receive pictures of your new baby. By being a part of the online community you can do all that and more. Membership is free and exclusive to alumni.

To take advantage of the online community, begin at www.plu.edu. From there it is a quick and easy registration process.

- Begin at www.plualumni.org. On the right-hand side of your page you will find the Online Community log-in section. Click on the "Register Now" link right below the log-in.
- Registering involves filling in your first and last name, as well as your official graduation year (i.e. 1986 rather than 86). When this is complete, select "Find my Record."
- The following screen will show all the records matching the search criteria. Select your name.
- To verify that this is your record, you will be asked for your alumni ID number. This number is listed on the label of this magazine. You will now choose your own user ID and password for continual access to the online community. Once you have agreed to terms and conditions, click the "Complete Registration" button. A confirmation e-mail will be sent if you have requested.
- You are now registered! As a member of the online community, you might update your current information, search the directory for your friends, or establish contacts by bookmarking them. Contact us with any questions at alumni@plu.edu or 253-535-7415.

ALUMNI BOARD NOMINATIONS OFFICIAL BALLOT

2011-2012 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following candidates are nominated for the 2011-2012 Alumni Board of Directors. Please vote for five candidates - two response boxes are provided if two alumni live in the same household.

Detach this form and mail before July 1, 2011, to the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Nesvig Alumni Center, Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Avenue S., Tacoma, WA 98447. You can also cast your ballot online at www.plualumni.org.

- Annette (Foege '61) Stixrud - Portland, Ore.
- Dale Haar '89 - Billings, Mont.
- Stephanie (Merle '97) Tomlinson - Nampa, Idaho
- Isaiah Johnson '96 - Auburn, Wash.
- Jan Praxel '70 - Spokane, Wash.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE(S) _____

Alumni Board seeks ways to encourage alums back to campus

The PLU Alumni Board just completed its spring meeting March 5-6. Newly elected President Pam Russell '72 and Vice President Laurie Soine '87 will lead the board as they strive to be an alumni voice for the university. The spring agenda included updates from the Development Office, Admission Office, ASPLU, Wild Hope and presentations on recent faculty and student research.

One of the highlights of the weekend was a work session, in conjunction with the Student Alumni Association, on how to bring alumni back to campus for engaging and meaningful experiences. The work session included conversations around career mentoring



Newly appointed Alumni Board president Pam Russell '72

opportunities; bringing alumni back for lectures, athletic and music events, as well as creating other events outside of those affinities.

The Alumni Board also discussed how to encourage alumni to not only participate in events, but also to participate in the financial life of the university.

"The Alumni Board represents PLU's entire alumni community and we want you to join us, and fellow classmates, in participating in giving to the campaign. Each of us has a chance to impact the lives of current students by giving gifts of time, talent and resources," said Pam Russell '72.

Join us! Information about the campaign can be found in the "University of Distinction" insert in this issue of Scene, and at www.plu.edu/campaign. S

SAVE THE DATE

Homecoming 2011

October 14-16

Keep your calendar open for a weekend of great friends and fun!

Pencil Us In


UPCOMING EVENTS

April 29-30	Relay for Life
April 30	Hawaii Club Luau
May 7	Q Club/Spring Donor Banquet, Campus
May 29	Spring Commencement, Tacoma Dome
June 22	Strawberry Festival, PLU campus
July 13	Raspberry Festival, PLU campus
August 3	Blueberry Festival, PLU campus
July 7, 14, 21*, 28*	Jazz Under the Stars, MBR Amphitheater
August 4*, 11*	Jazz Under the Stars, MBR Amphitheater <i>*Star Gazing at the Keck Observatory after the concert</i>
August 12	PLU Night at the Rainiers, Tacoma
September 6	Opening Convocation
September TBA	Norway Connection Event
Oct 14-16	Homecoming 2011 Weekend

For more information: www.plualumni.org or call 800-ALUM-PLU.

alumni profiles

Actor finds community, continuity fuels his work



Danforth Comins in the lead role of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2008 production of William Shakespeare's tragedy, 'Coriolanus.'
Photo by Jenny Graham.

Danforth Comins '97 is an Old Timer. He is, at least, compared to many other resident actors at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. In his ninth year at the country's largest resident theater, he has spent a comparative lifetime at the Ashland, Ore., company. The ability to settle-in and become a part of the local community is one of the things he loves about his work with the company.

"I'm unlike so many people in my profession - I get to sleep in the same bed all year 'round," he said. "It enriches my work. It is reflected in my work."

For the 2011 OSF season, Comins is performing in two productions: William Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" in which he'll play Mark Antony, and a world premiere about the assassination of San Francisco mayor George Moscone called "Ghost Light."

Both productions will be cast in OSF's most intimate venue, the New Theatre.

It requires a different approach than in the company's larger stages, such as the 1,100-seat outdoor Elizabethan stage. Whereas Comins has performed - and enjoyed - all of the stages, he finds there is a special appeal to the New Theatre.

"In the New Theatre, a slight twitch of the eye is all you need to communicate what you want," he said. "In the Bowmer [Theatre], it is that, plus raising an eyebrow. In the outdoor theater, it is a slight twitch of the eye, a raising of the eyebrow, AND a cock of the head."

Playing a lead role in "Julius Caesar" is a professional full-circle for Comins. After he earned his MFA at the University of Illinois, he came to PLU as a visiting instructor for a year, filling in for one of his mentors who retired. His goal was always to act, however, so after a year and the mounting of "Angels in America" on campus - "the first time a

Lutheran college did so," he said - he left for the Utah Shakespearean Festival. When performing in "Caesar" there, a producer from OSF saw his performance, liked it, and asked him to come to Ashland. He and his wife, PLU grad Shannon Park '96, a licensed clinical social worker, have been there ever since.

Even though OSF is decidedly in Comins' comfort zone, it is no easy task. Each season, he'll perform in two to three productions, totaling about 120 shows a year, sometimes performing in as many as 10 productions a week.

"It's a grueling schedule," he said, "but you get used to it. It's a rhythm.

"I would not trade my experience for anything."

—Steve Hansen

"Julius Caesar" plays in OSF's New Theatre March 25 through Nov. 6, 2011.

"Ghost Light" plays the New Theatre June 28 through Nov. 5, 2011.

Port of Tacoma CEO sees strength in community

Northwest native and Port of Tacoma CEO John Wolfe '87, prides himself for being part of an organization that creates jobs.

Established by the citizens of Pierce County, Wash., in 1918, The Port of Tacoma is among the largest container ports in North America. But Wolfe sees the port as so much more than that – as a catalyst for community vitality, and a creator of economic growth for both the county and the state.

“At the end of the day, if we are creating more, healthy, family wage jobs, then we’re winning,” Wolfe said.

According to port statistics, activities directly and indirectly connect the Port of Tacoma to about one in six jobs, or more than 43,000 jobs in Pierce County and 113,000 jobs statewide.

Wolfe arrived at the Port of Tacoma in 2005 after five years at the Port of Olympia (Wash.), and 12 years with Sea Land, a North Carolina-based container shipping firm. Wolfe served as deputy executive director at the Port of Tacoma until June 2010, when he was named CEO by the port’s publicly elected board of commissioners.

“It was really humbling to me to be accepted because there were some great candidates for this position,” Wolfe said.

Modesty, Wolfe said, is one of many things he learned at PLU.

Wolfe graduated in December 1987 with a degree in business administration. A “red shirt” freshman during his first year at PLU, Wolfe stayed in school an extra semester to play football, an activity that allowed him to learn many life lessons from retired head coach “Frosty” Westering.

“I learned humility from him,” Wolfe said. “That was a huge lesson. At that time in my life, it was very easy for me to get full of myself.”

One such lesson occurred during Wolfe’s junior year when he was asked to switch positions. He initially balked at the idea.

But Westering and Paul Hoeseth, an assistant coach, told Wolfe something he says he will never forget. “They shared with me that it’s not about what I need,” said Wolfe, “but what the team needs.”

Westering stressed how to be part of a team and how to work together toward



John Wolfe '87, Port of Tacoma CEO

a common understanding of success. In his position at the port, Wolfe draws on his PLU experiences daily as he works with commissioners, customers and the community.

Wolfe’s role at the port includes working with the Board of Commissioners to ensure strategic alignment, customer satisfaction and community involvement.

“We invite the community in,” Wolfe said. “It’s really important that we connect with the community because they own the port.”

Community means a lot to Wolfe, who grew up in Puyallup and still lives there today with his wife, Debbie, and two children, Alyssa, 16, and Zach, 15.

—Katie A. Scaff '13

Through experience and contemplation, painter hones his craft

In creating oil paintings at his Tacoma studio, artist David Gray, '92, takes inspiration from what is beautiful, good, excellent and wholesome.

Gray has worked as a full-time artist since December 2002. In this relatively short time, he has distinguished himself by winning prestigious awards such as the 2009 Chairman’s Choice Award at the International Art Renewal Center Salon, a competition for artists working in the classical tradition.

Gray completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at PLU. But while he always was interested in art, Gray did not immediately know after graduation what he wanted to do. Initially, he moved to California’s Bay Area to work with youth at Bayshore Christian Ministries. But eight months later, he returned to Tacoma, where he started working as a waiter.

It wasn’t until 1996, the same year that

Gray married his wife, Jessica, that he began to paint. “That’s when I got serious about my life,” said Gray. “I had to strike a path.”

In 2000, Gray attended the Pacific Rim Art Expo in Seattle, where his work caught the eye of the owner of Howard/Mandville Gallery, the first to feature his work.

Gray quit waiting tables two years later and began devoting his full attention to art.

“You got to take the plunge at some point,” said Gray. “Any self-employed person knows this. You got to cut off what’s safe.”

Gray has narrowed the focus of his work to still life and figurative art. Through a classical approach, utilized by artists for centuries, Gray paints to convey beauty and order.

“Each painting is a step and a journey,” said Gray.

To be an artist, Gray said, a person needs to possess natural ability and to hone that ability through education, experience, as well as trial and error.

alumni news & events

continued

"It's got to be a refined, honed communication," said Gray. "It's a craft."

Gray gathers inspiration from numerous sources, including cloud patterns, music, or witnessing acts of kindness. He is inspired by things in life that are beautiful and good.

"Everything I do see that's excellent, orderly and pure, it's from God," said Gray.

He believes his faith plays a part in why he does what he does.

Gray gathers inspiration from numerous sources, including cloud patterns, music, or witnessing acts of kindness.

He is inspired by things in life that are beautiful and good.

"The fact that I'm a believer gives me a spiritual awareness," said Gray, making him "more vulnerable to beautiful things. Excellent things. So, those things turn me on."

Gray has several figure paintings of his family, including his wife, Jessica, his six-year-old son, Forest, and daughter, Lauren, 9.

Teaching is also something Gray does as the opportunity arises. He has received really positive feedback from students and it has allowed him to sharpen his understanding of his craft. As part of that, Gray recently started a figure drawing class which he attends with other artists every Thursday night.

Together, Gray and Frances Buckmaster, an artist from Puyallup, hire a live model to come in for them and about 20 other artists to paint for mostly fun, but also to practice their skills.

Gray's dedication to living the life of a professional artist with a commitment to lifelong learning to improve one's craft inspires the other artists, said Buckmaster.

"He's not only talented and experienced," said Buckmaster, "but he's my idea of a person living the life of a serious, professional artist."

--Katie A. Scuff '13



Artist David Gray '92 in his Tacoma studio

Busy dad envisions healthy 'Plan B' for parents

Just like so many other families, Peter Gradwohl '90 and his wife, Andrea, once struggled to balance busy work schedules with the stress of providing healthy food for their three kids.

So, three years ago, with people like themselves in mind, the Gradwohls launched Fantazimo, a Seattle-based company that packs well-balanced lunches for local school kids.

"I kind of had an ah-ha moment," Peter Gradwohl said, "when I was making three lunches."

Creating options every day was no easy task. Especially for the Gradwohl's youngest son, Major, who suffers from Celiac disease, an intolerance to gluten.

Gradwohl began seriously thinking about convenient alternatives to packing lunches every day. Fantazimo Foods was the solution.

In partnership with the Seattle catering firm Gretchen's Shoebox Express, parents can order lunches online by 4 p.m. and lunches will be delivered to schools and camps the next day.

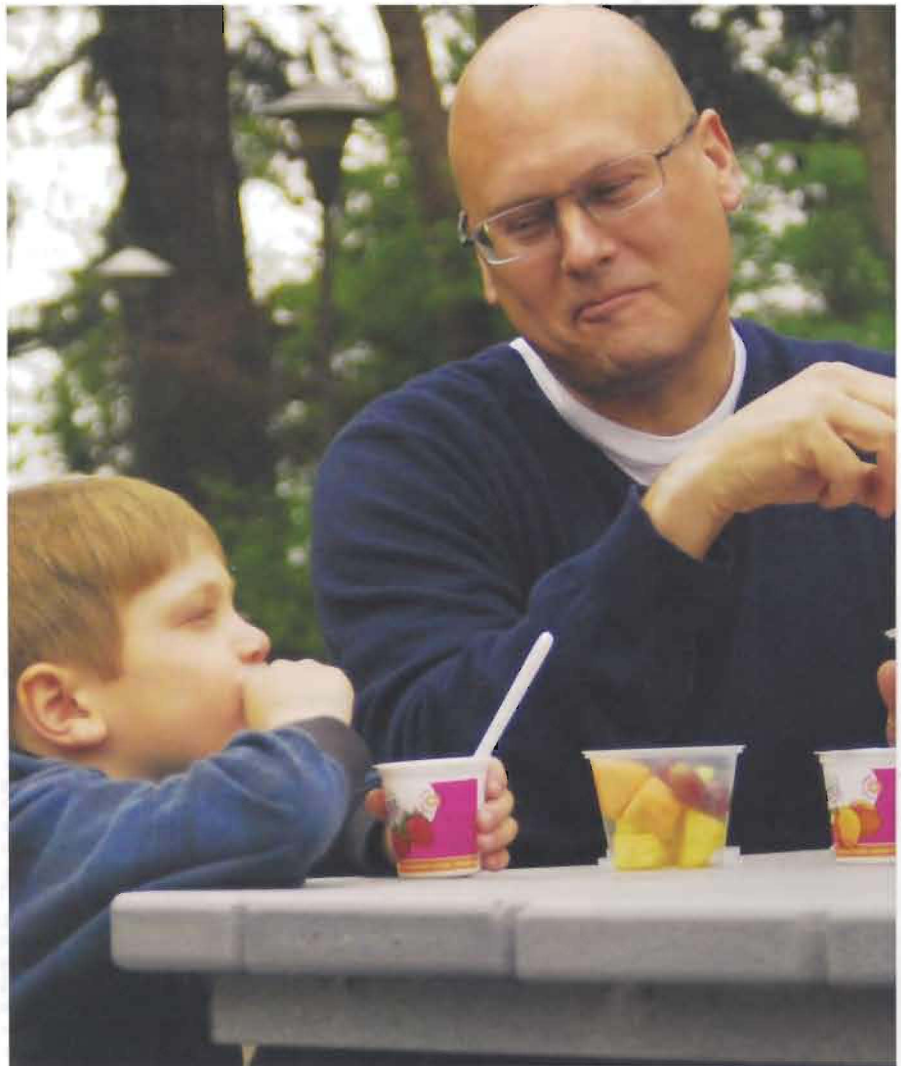
Fantazimo currently offers seven different entree selections, including a barbeque chicken wrap, a chicken and cheddar sandwich, and sides such as apple wedges, carrot sticks and string cheese. Each lunch comes with an entrée, a vegetable, fruit, protein and a bottle of water. Lunches are available in two sizes: Varsity (\$4.99 plus tax) and Junior Varsity (\$4.57 plus tax).

Fantazimo has delivered its food to more than 65 schools in the past two years. Gradwohl describes Fantazimo as a "Plan B" for parents.

"We're not there to replace mom and dad," says Gradwohl. "We're a backup."

At Fantazimo, Gradwohl works with several other former Lutes, including Elaina Dulaney '90, Larry Knudsen '81, and Michael "Elmo" Wright '90.

Gradwohl said the connections he made while at PLU have "really been a huge help." Knudsen serves as a business advisor to Gradwohl. Wright helps with Fantazimo's Web site. And Dulaney helps with the company's marketing.



Peter Gradwohl '90 shares lunch with his son, Major.

Dulaney, who like Gradwohl, has a son with Celiac disease, says one of Fantazimo's great values is its ability to supply nutritious lunches to children who have special dietary needs.

"It's great to know I can order a lunch that's safe," said Dulaney.

Gradwohl grew up in Edmonds, graduated in 1986 from Woodway High School, where he played football. He also played football at PLU.

In addition to sports, Gradwohl also participated in PLU's student media. He wrote for the *Mooring Mast* and hosted a radio show. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.


Reflecting on his experiences at PLU, Gradwohl mentions participating in the football program under Frosty Westering and making new friends as

being among his warmest memories.

"I made the best friends of my life, who I still talk to every day," Gradwohl said. "The Godparents of my kids are my friends from PLU."

After PLU, Gradwohl married Andrea in 1995. They have three children: Max, 12, Sophie, 9, and Major, 6.

Today, Gradwohl oversees Fantazimo's day-to-day operations. He meets with schools, works on product development, and maintains the company's Website. He hopes Fantazimo can expand and provide nutritious lunch options to more parents and children in the region.

"We want to be there for parents," Gradwohl said. "We want parents to know wherever their kid is at, we can deliver them a lunch." 

—Katie A. Scaff '13

alumni class notes

Class Representative positions available: 1968, 1980, 1991 and 1996.

1928

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

1936

Class Representative – **Volly (Norby) Grande**

1937-1939

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

1940

Class Representative – **Luella (Toso) Johnson**

M. Virginia (McFadden) French died Nov. 5. For 50 years she was the organist for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, where she also directed the choir. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald French and daughter, Eileen. Virginia is survived by children Howard, Marvin, Allen and Beverly Carberry; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

1941-1944

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

1945

Class Representative – **Annabelle Birkestol**

1946

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

1947

Class Representative – **Gerry Linder**

1948

Class Representative – **Norene (Skilbred) Gulhaugen**

1949



Clifford Korsmo died Nov. 24 in Tacoma, Wash. In 1954, Clifford became a Lutheran Brotherhood agent and enjoyed many opportunities to

present scholarships to outstanding students at PLU. Clifford then utilized his math and education degrees from PLU to teach junior-high math in the Tacoma School District. He later became the department head at McIlvaigh Junior High. His wife, **Marie Korsmo '64**, preceded him in death in 2004. He is survived by his five children, **Karen (Korsmo '67) Vigeland**, Mark Korsmo, Wayne Korsmo, Dale Korsmo and **Elise (Korsmo) Michaels '87**; and seven grandchildren.

1950

Class Representative – **Dick Weathermon**

Emely Sholseth died July 8. She is survived by her brother, Edward, sister Helen, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Frederick Geiger, Jr. died Dec. 22 in Bremerton, Wash. Fred had a passion for teaching and later became an administrator in the Centralia School District from 1950 to 1970. Fred continued his love of teaching at the North Mason School District for 10 years. While living in Rustlewood, Fred and his wife, Fran, were instrumental in organizing the Rustlewood Homeowners Association. Fred served as the president for three consecutive terms. After his retirement from teaching, Fred filled his days by working part-time for the Bremerton Sun as their handyman. He is preceded in death by his wife, Francis Geiger, and his daughter, Michelle Geiger. He is survived by children Randy Geiger and Christine Alonso; three grandchildren; two step-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

1951

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

Margaret (Franke) Rosin died July 19 at St. John Medical Center in Longview, Wash. Margaret was a homemaker who taught piano and worked as an activities director at a nursing home. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and sang in the church choir. Margaret is survived by children Mark Rosin, Celeste Stubbs, **Julie Thorsness '80** and John Rosin; and four grandchildren. Margaret was preceded in death by husband **Edward Rosin '50**.

Mavis (Sanderson) Hoffman and husband, Don, celebrated 50 years of marriage on December 30. Their sons, Keith and Robert, and their families hosted the celebration.

Harold "Ole" Anker died Dec. 03 at home with his family close by. Harold served 30 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, which included a tour in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He retired with the rank of major. He moved to Bend, Ore., and started a second 20-year career in real estate, founding Anker Realty. He is survived by his wife, Nora (Covey) Anker; children Christian Hammond, Edward Anker, Andrew Anker, Jerry Simer and Sharon Isbell; and four grandchildren.

Roberta (Schoessler) Falk died Dec. 23 with her family present. After graduating, Roberta began a career in education. She took incredible pride in raising her children and being a wife of a Lutheran pastor – two roles she excelled in and greatly cared about. Roberta is survived by her husband, **Phillip Falk '50**; children **Bryan Falk '76**, **Brad Falk '79**, **Patty (Falk '82) Nielsen** and **Mark Falk '84**; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

1952

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

Evangeline Rimbach recently published "Accent on Johann Kuhnau." Evangeline is a retired music professor.

1953 Class Representatives – Naomi (Roe) Nothstein and Carol (Schuler) Karwoski

1954

Class Representative

Alvin Kageler died Dec. 18 at St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma. After graduation, Al served in the Army in Germany. After his return, Al spent the majority of his career as a chemist at Reichhold Chemicals for 33 years. Al is survived by his significant other, Pat; children **Julie Kageler '84** and **Dean Kageler**; and one grandchild. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jane.

1955

Class Representative – **Phyllis (Grahm) Pejisa**

Otto Tollefson died Dec. 24 at Franciscan Hospice in Tacoma, Wash., His family was by his side. Otto served as a missionary in Brazil from 1958 to 1977. He also served as co-pastor at the Poulsbo First Lutheran Church; worked with Home Missions; and founded Christ Servant Lutheran Church in Lacey, Wash. Otto and his wife were active in International Lutheran Marriage Encounter in Brazil, Norway, Finland and Iceland. Otto is survived by his wife, **Barbara (Johansen '55) Tollefson**; children **Scott Tollefson**, **Dean Tollefson '81**, **Joel Tollefson**, **Helen Tollefson '88** and **Lisa Adel**; and ten grandchildren.

1956

Class Representatives – **Ginny (Grahm) Haugen and Clarene (Osterli) Johnson**

Walter Ball died Dec. 30. Walter was a retired reserve U.S. Navy commander. He was also a distinguished Clover Park Elementary School principal. Walter served as the associate executive director of the Association of Washington School Principals. Everyone who knew Walt enjoyed his compassion, his heart to serve, and his corky sense of humor. He enjoyed his farm, his 1939 Ford 9N tractor, fishing, sports, friends, church and most of all, his family. Walter is survived by his wife **Carol (Garlinghouse '75) Ball**; children **Kathleen**, **Kristin** and **Kelly**; and eight grandchildren.

1957

Class Representative – **Ed Larson**

Dwaine Brandt retired from Concordia University in Portland, Ore., after 50 years. He and his wife, Rachel, currently reside in Butteville, Ore.

Walton F. Berton died Nov. 6. Walton served the Northwest as a Lutheran minister for 50 years. He earned his Doctor of Divinity from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, as well as a teaching degree from California State Long Beach. He was a senior pastor at First Lutheran in Hines, Ore.; Our Redeemer Lutheran in Eugene, Ore.; Bethany Lutheran in Portland, Ore.; and St. Andrew Lutheran in Vancouver, Wash. Wally is survived by his wife, Carole; children **Greg**, **Brad**, **Bruce '83**, **Ann** and **Boni**; step-children, **Jeff**, **Chrissy** and **Michael**; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

1958

Class Representative – **Don Cornell**

1959

Golden Club Class Rep Committee

1960

Class Representative – **Marilu (Miller) Person**

1961

Class Representative – **Ron Lerch**

Nelda (Reede) Chandler is a retired nurse but still works as a registered nurse in the operating room at a community hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

1962

Class Representatives – **Leo Eliason and Dixie (Likkel) Matthias**

Helen Marie Josephson died Sept. 4. Helen was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church, where she was a Sunday school teacher and helped with vacation bible school. Helen is survived by her husband, Larry; children **Maria** and **Karen**; five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

1963

Class Representative – **Merlyn and Joan (Maier) Overland**

Donna (Baerg) Mosher is a retired medical technologist from Freeman Hospital in Joplin, Mo.

Beverly (Stimson) Kirkpatrick became an approved member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

1964

Class Representatives – **Jon and Jean (Riggers) Malmin**

1965

Class Representative – **Dave Wytko**

1966

Class Representative – **Frank Johnson**

Tyler Coplen is the director of the U.S. Geological Survey's Reston Stable Isotope Laboratory in Reston, Va. He is a

member of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry's (IUPAC) Commission on Isotopic Abundances and Atomic Weights, which oversees the evaluation and dissemination of atomic-weight values. The changes of 10 elements became official in December 2010. The 10 elements will now be expressed in a new way that will more accurately reflect how these elements are found in nature. Instead of single values, they will get expressed as intervals, having upper and lower bounds, to more accurately convey variations in atomic weight.

1967

Class Representative – **Craig Bjorklund**

Carolyn Joyce Christensen died Aug. 9. Carolyn practiced as an emergency room nurse and wound-care nurse until her retirement in 2004. She saved two lives off duty. She is survived by her husband, David; son Kai; and two grandchildren.

Sandi (Brye) Renati retired after 30 years as an intensive care nurse in Mountain View, Calif. For her, it has been an ever-changing ride, but now she feels it is time to smell the flowers – and clean the house.

1968

Class Representative

Philip Formo retired as senior pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Md., in February. He has served several parishes in Austin, Minn., Roseville, Minn. and Bloomington, Minn.

1969

Class Representative – **Rick Nelson**

1970

Class Representative – **Bill Allen**

Karen (Winter) Schmidt died July 8. Karen was known for her patience, gentleness and inner strength, which she derived from her strong faith in Christ. In her adult life, she was an active member of Grace Lutheran and Later Calvary Lutheran in Modesto, Calif., participating in their education, music, social welfare and evangelistic ministries. Her championing of people with disabilities led her to positions with Mid-Nebraska Mental Retardation Services and Howard Training Center. She taught special education at Waterloo and Sylvan elementary schools, finishing her career as a resource aide at Agnes Baptist. Karen is survived by husband Ronald Schmidt, and children Philip and Erika Schmidt.

1971

Class Representative – **Joe Hustad, Jr.**

Jerry Fjermestad was awarded the NJIT teaching excellence award for graduate instruction. Jerry is currently a professor of management information systems at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. In 2009, he won for the third time the Bright Idea award from the New Jersey Business Association for innovation in information technology research. Along with a Ph.D. student, he won the Best Paper award at the 2009 Americas Conference on Information Systems.

1972

Class Representative – **Molly Stuen**

Bruce Bjerke has been elected Chair of the Board of Regents of PLU. He is an attorney at Davis Wright Tremaine in Seattle. His wife, **Jill (Farver '71) Bjerke**, recently retired after 30 years of teaching in the Seattle Public Schools, most recently at John Stanford International.

1973

Class Representatives – **Karen (Wraalstad) Robbins** and **Sandy (Dimler) Privett**

1974

Class Representative – **David E. Johnson**

Maren (Bailey) Engh and husband, Steve, celebrated 35 years of marriage in August. The couple lives in Camarillo, Calif.

Jill (Tallman) Veverka is newly retired, but is mentoring first-year teachers through Oregon's mentoring program. Jill and husband, Don, live in Medford, Ore.

Kim Nordberg has done eight short-term dental mission trips in the last ten years to Guatemala and El Salvador. The last four have been with CMDS Southern California USC group to Guatemala, mentoring 30 students in poor sections of Guatemala.

1975

Class Representative – **Wendy Enger-Gibson**

1976

Class Representative – **Gary Powell**

Margie Hershey was ordained into the ministry of the word and sacrament of the ELCA in July. She currently serves as a pastor of the Prairie Fellowship Parish in Bison, S.D.

Rick Wigen is the new vice president of product development at ALMO in Philadelphia. He and his wife, **Valorie (Anderson '76) Wigen**, have recently relocated. Their daughter, **Cora Wigen '12**, is currently attending PLU.

Peggy (O'Neil) Shortt is currently an advanced registered nurse practitioner and deep brain stimulation program manager at Swedish Medical Center. Peggy and her husband, Gary, reside in Edmonds, Wash.

1977

Class Representatives – **Leigh Erie** and **Jean (Nelson) Mattich**

Michael Sugino received certification as a wound care nurse. He also renewed his advanced cardiac life support certification. Between assignments as a traveling nurse, he and his wife, Janet, live in Brinnon, Wash.

1978

Class Representative – **Pete Mattich**

Roy Hammerling recently published the book, "The Lord's Prayer in the Early Church: The Pearl of Great Price." Dr.

Roy Hammerling is currently the chair of the religion department at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.

Col. Tom Tveit's daughter, **Tori Tveit '14**, and sister of soon-to-be PLU graduate **Lynsey Tveit '11**, was inadvertently left off the "Legacy Lute" list in the Winter 2010 issue of the Scene.

Judith Solberg died Dec. 10. Judith taught seventh grade language arts in Lacey, Wash., and later taught in Clover Park, Wash., and Vancouver, Wash. She taught a total of 10 years. She then earned her Master's degree from PLU. Judith worked at PLU in the communications department. She later worked for the DEA and returned to Stanwood after her retirement. She was active in the Sons of Norway Frijol Lodge #17, Elks club, the Nordic Heritage Museum, the Lutheran church, and Martha Circle. Judith was a regular volunteer at the Stanwood Camano food bank and thrift store. Judith leaves a number of cousins and family behind.

1979

Class Representatives – **Dave** and **Teresa (Hausken) Sharkey**

1980

Class Representative

Patricia Kirkwood received tenure as associate professor in engineering and mathematics at the University of Arkansas.

1981

Class Representatives – **Dean** and **Susan (Lee) Phillips**.

1982

Class Representative – **Paul Collard**

Karen (Thomas) Scott married George Scott on June 12, in Auburn, Wash. Karen is currently the chair of business and social sciences at Pierce College in Puyallup.

Jon Zurfluh was recently named the new director of the Anglo-American School of Moscow, an international school in Russia. The school serves students from more than 64 countries in grades pre-kindergarten to 12. He will start this position in July. Jon and his family will be relocating to Moscow, Russia, in July.

Linda (Tingelstad) Davis is the founder and executive producer of Art Beat, a video production company that encompasses all forms of art. The first year, this program won a combination of five awards, including "Best Crew" and "Spirit" awards.

1983

Class Representative – **Dave Olson**

The **Other Roger Iverson**, as in Roger Junior, the one who lives in Tacoma and teaches elementary students, the one who remains married to the eternally patient **Cindy (Banken '89) Iverson**, who has four, count 'em, oh-my-gosh, four children – Soren, 15; Martin and Erik, 11; and Kirsten, 8 – the Roger who continues to act, direct and write for the theatre,

not the basketball legend, but the Other Roger, the singer-who-lived-in-B16-Rainier-for-three-years Roger, is still alive.

Levko Klos serves on the board of directors of the Health Planning Council of southwest Florida. The HPC serves a seven-county area with a population of nearly 1.8 million people. He sends a special shout-out to the last classmate he saw 17 years ago in Redding, Pa: Cindy S.

Patti (Gingell) Hendrix accepted a position as a certified registered nurse anesthetists at Providence Kodiak Island Medical Center in March 2010. She is president of the Alaska Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Patti currently resides in Kodiak, Alaska.

1984

Class Representative – **Mark Christofferson**

Jazelle (Budlong) Savin became the registered nurse supervisor for the Family Birth Center at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in Portland, Ore. The hospital does high-risk labor and does about 1700 deliveries a year.

1985

Class Representatives – **Janet (Olden) Regge** and **Carolyn (Plocharsky) Stelling**



Kristi (Running) Chiaravallotti retired in December 2009 from the Navy Reserves after 24 years of active duty and reserves. She has worked as a critical care nurse most of her career in numerous military hospitals. Her most recent assignment was working in the intensive care unit at National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. She and her family live in the Metro D.C. area in Silver Spring, Md. Her husband Joe is also a retired naval officer.

Liz (Pulliam) Weston recently published her fourth book, "The Ten Commandments of Money." She currently writes two personal finance columns for MSN Money as well as a weekly syndicated newspaper column.

1986

Class Representative – **Stacey (Kindred) Hesterly**

1987

Class Representatives – **Lisa Ottoson** and **John Carr**

Don Esterbrook was named the Port of Tacoma's chief commercial officer. He is the lead on the port's operations, commercial strategy and asset management functions. Esterbrook, a former senior executive with Orient Overseas Container Line, was most recently OOCL regional sales director for nine western states.

Kevin Ylvisaker was recently promoted to chief investment officer at Perkins Coie Trust Company, LLP, in Seattle, Wash.

Debra (Weber) Pruitt is the owner of Old McDebbie's Farm in Spanaway, Wash. All PLU students and alumni with ID cards (free admission) are welcome to visit. There are barnyard animals, pony rides, duck races, carnival games, trout fishing, an outdoor play area, and an "eye spy" nature trail.

1988

Class Representative – **Brenda Ray Scott**

Edwin Dierdorff is a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society international archives committee and board member at large with the Bellevue and Seattle chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He has also been a member for 32 years with the Bellevue, Seattle and Tacoma chapters. He is part of the Bellevue, Northwest Sound Men's Chorus, who won the 2010 Evergreen District Division II Chorus Championship, and the Seattle chapter won the most improved chorus award for 2010.

Todd Kelley is the new communication specialist for Boeing. Todd is also a museum docent and driver for the LeMay Family Collection at the Marymount Event Center. He lives in Puyallup, Wash., with his wife, **Suzanne (Capelli '89) Kelley**, and two daughters.

1989

Class Representative – **Brendan Rorem**

Betty (Rickett) Noll is the director of the practical nursing program at Sumner College in Portland, Ore.



Del Shannon recently published his first middle-grade children's novel, "Kevin's Point of View." This book was recently selected by the Boulder (Colo.)

Valley School District for use by a team of interventionist teachers for reading education in grade schools.

Mary (Walker) DeMuth is set to release her sixth novel, "The Muir House," in April. She's also written four parenting books and a memoir, "Thin Places." Mary lives in Texas with her husband, Patrick, and their three children.

1990

Class Representatives – **Erik Bensen** and **Mark Kurtz**

Rod Bigelow is the new deputy director of operations and administration at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas. Rod brings over 14 years of financial and executive management to this new position.

Robert Carney is set to release his third collection poems entitled, "Story Problems."

Picture Perfect



Sandi (Ruch) '85 and **Kristi (Running) Chiaravallotti '85** and their families have stayed connected for the past 25 years, spending several holidays and family events together.



Three old roomies, **Alona (Jones) Roike '62**, **Linda (Bridenbecker) Light '62**, **Carol (Swenson) Hundebly '62**, met together this past summer to renew old friendships.

Would you like to share your pictures with your fellow alumni?

Send pictures to us by e-mail at alumni@plu.edu, or by mail to the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98447. Please feel free to call us at 800-ALUM-PLU if you have any questions.

1991



Youlander Hilton recently took a 15-day cruise from Venice, Italy, to Athens, Greece. During her trip she also visited Israel.

Lisa Manning is a personal and spiritual development coach. She currently lives in San Anselmo, Calif.

Susan Lindsey was recently honored with two awards for her media relations work on behalf of the Louisville-based Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Her media campaign helped generate more than \$10 million in donations in less than six months for relief and recovery work in Haiti. Her efforts were recognized with a local Landmark for Merit Award and a regional Diamond Award. Susan is the owner of Savvy Communication LLC, in Louisville, Ky.

1992

Class Representative – **Darcy (Pattee) Andrews**

1993

Class Representative – **Barbara (Murphy) Hesner**

Stuart Lewis died Sept. 4. Stuart was very active in the Boy Scouts, the Masonic Lodge and the Lutheran Church. He is survived by his son, Tristan, and daughter, Sheridan; mother, Nell Lewis; brothers Walter and Dean Lewis; sisters Patricia Brawly and Jennifer Lewis.

Cliff Mills currently works at Swedish Medical Center as an emergency room social worker. He is continuing his dedication to working with those in psychiatric crisis. Cliff lives in Seattle, Wash.

William Kiser has been appointed inaugural commandant for the new medical education and training campus at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where essentially all medical enlisted training for each of the armed services has been consolidated. They train more than 24,000 medics, techs, and corpsmen annually.

Eric Schuck is a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve, currently serving in Kuwait. In his civilian life he is an economics professor at Linfield College. He and his wife, **Cally Turner '92**, live in McMinnville, Ore., with their three children.

Joel Kittinger married Pragma Devi Sukumaran on Oct. 21, in Hyderabad, India.

1994

Class Representatives – **Dan Lysne** and **Catherine (Overland) Hauck**



Jimmy Grierson was awarded "2010 Man of the Year" for Stanwood/Camano Island, Wash. He was also promoted to chief of family medicine at Skagit Valley Regional Clinics.

Jimmy is the founder of Safe Harbor Free Clinic, which has more than 200 volunteers and sees 40 patients per night when open.

1995

Class Representative – **Christi Rupp**

Lisa Kupka recently moved to Dallas, Texas. Lisa is the vice president of business development for Truco Enterprises.

1996

Lisa Balmes is currently the co-owner of

Chris Balmes Properties. She currently resides in Lake Oswego, Ore.

Kara (Holland) Hurst recently became a museum curator with the Bureau of Land Management in the Utah state office. She is responsible for the curation of archaeological objects recovered through law enforcement criminal investigations. Kara has also been a volunteer ski patroller for eight years at the Canyons Resort in Park City, Utah.

1997

Class Representatives – **Andy** and **Stephanie (Merle) Tomlinson**

Sirine Fodstad is the executive director for Ernst and Young in Oslo, Norway.

Keith Dussell is the new specialist for diversity and inclusion at Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air.

Wendi Garrison recently became the education and training manager for Kids Included Together. Their mission is to provide learning opportunities that support recreation, child development and youth enrichment programs to include children with and without disabilities. Wendi currently resides in San Diego, Calif.

Christena (Stores) Anderson currently works for the Evergreen School District. Christena and her family currently live in Vancouver, Wash.

Young Kim married Shannon (Smith) on May 22, 2010, in Port Gamble, Wash.

Scott Kolbert was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Portland, Ore., on Nov. 6.

1998

Class Representative – **Shannon (Herlocker) Stewart**

Kristin Latham is an assistant professor of biology at Western Oregon University. She also plays bass guitar with a Corvallis-based jazz trio. Kristin currently resides in Corvallis, Ore.

1999

Class Representative – **Julie (Johnston) Bulow von Dennewitz**

Brian Norman has recently published a new scholarly book called “Neo-Segregation Narratives: Jim Crow in Post-Civil Rights American Literature.” He was also named the director of the new program in African and African American Studies at Loyola University in Baltimore, Md.



Julie Ann (Johnston) Bulow von Dennewitz participated in and completed the Amica Mid-Summer Triathlon. The event took place at Blue Lake near Troutdale, Ore.

Maureen Francisco is a guest on the radio show “Valerie’s New York.” Maureen calls in and talks about what she thinks are the “hottest reality-show casting calls.” She was the first contestant on CBS’s “Power of Ten” in 2007 and was a contestant on FOX reality channel’s “Solitary 3.0.”



Heather (Dooley) West married Jevin West on Oct. 2 in Winthrop, Wash. The couple currently lives in Seattle, Wash.

2000

Class Representative – **Ashley Orr**

Camille (Mesmer) Vancil and husband **Matt Vancil '01** recently moved back to the Tacoma area. Camille is currently employed at Northwest Art Glass as a Website content manager and Matt is working at Paizo, LLC.

Matthew Tucker is the owner of Northwest Computer, Financial and Social Services in Tacoma. NWCFS was voted in 2010 as “Best Local Business” and “Best Bargain” business in Tacoma by KOMO-TV and KOMO-Radio listeners.

2001

Class Representatives – **Brianne (McQuaig) Vetrees** and **Michael Mauss**

Lisa Atkinson was recently hired as a relationship manager for Key Bank’s Key@Work program. She has more than nine years of financial services experience. Lisa rejoins Key Bank after serving as assistant vice president, professional banking officer for Bank of the Cascades. Lisa is also treasurer for The First Tee of Idaho and chaired the Family Advocates Annual Golf Tournament in 2009 and 2010.

Ross Degerstedt recently joined Stantec Consulting as a principal in their building’s engineering practice in Seattle, Wash. Stantec’s Seattle office specializes in sustainable design, energy and water conservation, and mechanical engineering for all type of facilities.

Keith Pranghofer married Angela Crowe on April 17, 2010, in Key West, Fla. His brother, **Kelly Pranghofer '97**, was his best man.

Emily Cook was recently hired as the business development director with Rusty George Creative.

Shonda (Hoyt) Moon became national board certified in the area of English language arts/adolescence and young adult on Nov. 19.

2002

Class Representatives – **Nicholas Gorne** and **Brian Riehs**



Ashley Seffernick is living and working in London as a learning and development consultant for

Microsoft. Ashley is responsible for training teams throughout Europe and Asia and has traveled to more than 15 countries in the past year. On Aug. 15, 2009, Ashley married Mel Carson in Gig Harbor, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party were **Aubrey Seffernick '00** and **Chason Hendryx '99**.

2003

Class Representative – **Elisabeth (Pynn) Himmelman**

Matthew Coughlin recently released his first CD, “Live at the Dive”. Matt Coughlin and the Growlers have a multitude of references and successfully combine rock ‘n’ roll, country, folk, funk and jazz.

Kristen Madsen was recently promoted to director of emergency services and critical care registered nurse float pool at Parker Adventist Hospital/Centura Health.

Nichole (West) Turgeon is going to be honored by the Omaha Jaycees as one of this year’s “Ten Outstanding Omahans.” The award has been given since 1933 to honor people between the ages of 21-40 who strive for excellence and have a strong commitment to community service and personal and professional development. Nicole is the director of fund development for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland, Neb. She currently is a part of BBBS of America Nationwide Leadership Council Fund Development Committee, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, American Parkinson Disease Association, Junior League of Omaha, the Ronald McDonald House, Film Streams and Habitat for Humanity.

2004

Class Representative – **Tammy Lynn Schaps**



Daphne (Smith) Buren married Erik Buren on May 22, 2010, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina, Wash.

Fellow lutes who attended were **Scott Olson '03**, **Marianne (Silvera '04) White**, **Ben White '04**, **Gwyneth (Benson '04) Lang**, **Margaret Smith '04**, **Jessica Bruce '04**, **Kristin (Singer '05) Tinder**, **Jeremy Tinder '04**, **Melinda Johnson '04**, and **James Conrad '04**.

2005

Class Representative – **Michael Steele**

Scott Stauffer currently works for advancement services at Concordia University in Portland, Ore.



Sarah (Luckman) Stoddard married Shaun Stoddard on Dec. 31, 2009. Sarah is a library

media specialist in the Kent School District. The couple currently lives in Seattle, Wash.

W. Kit McGurn is currently working for Conservation Northwest as an outreach coordinator in Seattle, Wash. Conservation Northwest protects and restores wild lands in the Pacific Northwest and supports such efforts in British Columbia.



Kelsea (Lundquist) DeVries married Todd DeVries on Oct. 15, 2010 at the Marines’ Memorial Club

and Hotel in San Francisco. Lutes in attendance were **Jinnie Hanson '06**, **Rebecca (Schmidt '05) Miller**, and **Jill (Schliep '06) Schaumburg**. The couple currently resides in San Francisco.

2006

Class Representative – **Jenna (Steffenson) Serr**

In Memoriam

1940

M. Virginia (McFadden) French on Nov. 5

1949

Clifford Korsmo on Nov. 24

1950

Emely Sholseth on July 8
Frederick Geiger Jr. on Dec. 22

1951

Margaret (Franke) Rosin on July, 19.
Harold "Ole" Anker on Dec. 3
Roberta (Schoessler) Falk on Dec. 2

1954

Alvin Kageler on Dec. 18

1955

Otto Tollefson on Dec. 24

1956

Walter Ball on Dec. 30

1957

Walton F. Berton on Nov. 06

1962

Helen Marie Josephson on Sept. 4

1967

Carolyn Joyce Christensen on Aug. 9

1970

Karen (Winter) Schmidt on July 8

1978

Judith Solberg on Dec. 10

1993

Stuart Lewis on Sept. 4

Friends and Family

Arno O. Zoske died Aug. 29. Arno served as the PLU’s men’s soccer coach from 1980-1982. Arno also spent 10 years as soccer coach/athletic trainer at Evergreen State College. He survived by Paula Towne,

his best friend and companion of 25 years.

Rev. Donald W. Taylor died Dec. 25. Don served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He graduated from the University of Washington and later moved with his family to Minneapolis, Minn., where he attended Luther Theological Seminary. He was ordained in 1957 and served congregations in Bellingham Wash., Sandpoint, Idaho, Portland, Ore. and Everett, Wash. He was the campus pastor at PLU from 1969-1971. In his retirement, he skippered a research vessel to the Arctic, taught Bible classes, and served for a time as interim pastor at the church on Guemes Island. Don was preceded in death by his wife, Helene Taylor, on December 8. He is survived by his children, **Julie (Taylor) Aageron '70**, **Marcia Wilson, Laurie (Taylor) VanderWeyst '74**, and **Martin Taylor '83**; twelve grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Ralph D. Gehrke died January 4. Ralph earned a B.A. from Northwestern College in 1941, and a B.D. from Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1944, where he was also ordained as a Lutheran Pastor. He earned his Ph.D. in 1959 from the University of Chicago. Ralph came to PLU in 1975 as a professor in the religion department until his retirement in 1990. In his years at PLU, Gehrke taught courses in the Bible, as well as courses in the Integrated Studies. His final academic appointments were as a guest lecturer at Martin Luther Seminary in New Guinea in 1993 and 1995.

What's new with you?

> Please fill out as much information below as possible, including city of residence and work. Feel free to use another piece of paper, but please limit your submission to 100 words. Photos are welcome, but only one photo will be used, and on a space available basis. Notes will be edited for content. Photos must be prints or high quality jpegs. Please, no reproductions or copies from other publications.
Deadline for the next issue of Scene is May 1, 2011.

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MAIDEN)		PLU CLASS YEAR(S)
SPOUSE		SPOUSE'S PLU CLASS YEAR(S) IF APPLICABLE
STREET ADDRESS		IS THIS A NEW ADDRESS? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
CITY STATE	ZIP	
PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL/WEBSITE POST ON THE ALUMNI E-MAIL DIRECTORY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

Job Information

JOB TITLE	EMPLOYER
WORK ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP
WORK PHONE	WORK EMAIL

Marriage (no engagements, please)

SPOUSE'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, MAIDEN, LAST)	
DATE/PLACE OF MARRIAGE	
SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION	

Birth

CHILD'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)	BIRTH DATE (M/D/Y) GENDER MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>
SIBLINGS/AGES	

Promotions/Awards

NAME
TITLE OF POSITION/COMPANY/AWARD/ DATE ASSUMED

> **MAIL TO:** Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, PLU, Tacoma, WA 98447-0003; **FAX:** 253-535-8555; **E-MAIL:** alumni@plu.edu; **Internet:** www.plualumni.org. Please limit to 100 words.

Jeremiah Dunham was recently promoted to president of Design-PT. Jeremiah currently resides in Eagle River, Alaska.



Sara (Ladenburg) Savala married **Travis Savala '06** on Aug. 14 in Bellevue, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party were best man **Kent Leatham '06** and groomsmen **Kenneth Westcott '06**. Travis teaches math and science at Hazen High School and Sara teaches K-6 music at Beverly Park Elementary. The couple currently live in Kent, Wash.



Mariesa Bus married **Tyson David Eugene Griffin** on Oct. 8 in Troutdale, Ore. Lutes in attendance were **Greta Jaeger '06, Benjamin Monte Cavlo '07, Chris Blanco '06, Laurent Nickel '07, Ricky Buchanan '07, Benjamin Rasmus '06, Natalie Heikkenen '08, Erin, Burgess '04, Christopher Pearson '06, Martin Gengenbach '05, Shannon Schrecengost '08 and Steven Donovan '06.**

2007

Class Representative – **Kaarin Praxel**



Kara (Powell) Brown married **Ryan Brown** on April 4, 2010, in Snohomish, Wash.



Elizabeth (Zimmerman) Grolbert married **Robert Grolbert '06** on Aug. 14 at the St. Patrick's Church in Tacoma, Wash. The couple resides in Fircrest, Wash.



Amanda (Leenhouts) Drake married **Adam Drake** on July 3, 2009, in Lynden, Wash. Amanda is a marketing representative for WECU in Bellingham.

Lauren Whitham is currently living in Bellingham, Wash. She is pursuing her Master's degree in choral conducting.

Christian Wong was the October State Farm MBA speaker series presenter at PLU. Christian is president of Choccolati Handmade Chocolates in Seattle.



Maryanne Wirkkanen married **Tony Hajdu** on July 10, 2010, in Vancouver, British Columbia. The couple currently

lives in Bellingham, Wash. Lutes in attendance were **Eric Pfaff '09, Sheena Kern '05, Jay Sy '09, Yelena Rudenko '08, Sarah Vidal '05 and Scott Posey '10.**

Elizabeth (Lamb) Lamb-Ferro was hired onto the Rusty George Creative team in August as an account manager/strategist.



Rachel (Fuller) Wrenn married **Tim Wrenn** on May 1, 2010, in Ada, Minn. Lutes in attendance were **Emily (O'Leary '06) Barker, Karin Johnson '07, Bethany Atkins '07, Laura Thompsen '06, Candis Tyler '07, Nolan Ball '07, Jessica Holden '07, Kaarin Praxel '07 and Nicholas Weber '06.**

2008

Class Representative – **Christy Olsen Field and Courtney Stringer**



Justin (Echavaria) Williams married **Cass Edward Williams** on Sept. 18 in Anchorage, Alaska.



Stefanie (Copeland) Santie married **John William Santie, Jr.** on Sept. 19 in University Place, Wash.

Jill Russell recently started work at the Daily News as the education and general assignment reporter. Jill currently resides in Tacoma, Wash.

Kael Fisher married **Jamie (Brink) on Aug. 1 at Belle Chapel in Snohomish, Wash. Jeff Danforth '08** was in the wedding party.



Matthew Sinnes married **Sarah (Patrick) on Sept. 25 at Hidden Meadows in Snohomish, Wash. Curt Oliver '08** was in the wedding party. Since Matthew and Sarah are basketball coaches, playing basketball and seeing how high the wedding party could jump were part of the festivities. The couple currently lives in Spanaway, Wash.



Jessica (Luppino) Pagel married **Travis Pagel '07** on June 12, 2010, at First Lutheran Church in Tacoma, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party were **Rebecca Keys '08, Tina Reindl '07, Tina Liming '09, Tove Tupper '08, Andrea Calcagno '08, Ryan Stephens '07, Matthew Burtness '07 and Eric**

Wahlquist '09. The couple currently resides in Tacoma, Wash



Lindsey (Larsen) Evans married James Evans on July 25. Lutes in attendance were **Heather Kistler '08, Karen**

McMohan '08, Amber Plambeck '07, Desiree (Neary '96) Sumers, Kyle Nowadnick '07, Rob Thomsen '07, Abi McLane '08, Jared Wigert '07, Christa Ledesma '08, Monica (Ricarte '94) Hurley, Rich Hurley '93, Kelli Dukleth '07, Nolan Adams '10, Becca Keys '08, Cory Cummings '09, Tracy Rauk '08, Jessica (Luppino '08) Pagel, Travis Pagel '07, Kate (Stockly '08) Stockly-Meyerdirk and Blake Thiess '07.



Andrea Calcagno married Chris Beavers on Aug. 22 at the Oregon Garden in Silverton, Ore.

Lutes in the wedding party were **Erin (Parr) Catala '08, Becca Keys '08 and Cory Cumming '08.**



Donovan Jones '08 married **Lesley (Danielson '08) Jones** on July 19, 2009, in Portland, Ore.

Lutes in the wedding party were **Sarah Kehoe '08 and Jonathan McFadden '08.** Donovan works in Bellevue and is pursuing his Master's of science in finance at Seattle University. Lesley teaches kindergarten in Federal Way, Wash. The couple and their two dogs currently live in Seattle, Wash.

2009

Class Representatives – **Maren Anderson and Amy Spieker**

Tina Schumann is the recipient of the 2010 Stephen Dunn Poetry Prize for her manuscript "As If."



Timothy Siburg married **Allison Mabel (Parks '09) Siburg** on Aug. 7 at the First Lutheran Church in Poulsbo,

Wash. They are both students at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. The couple currently resides in Lauderdale, Minn.

Sarah Knutson is currently interning with Oregon's senior U.S. Senator, Ron Wyden. She was very excited to be in Washington, D.C., during the midterm elections. Sarah is currently living in Takoma Park, Md.



Michelle (Lindgren) Story married **Adam Story '11** on Aug. 14 in Yakima, Wash. Lutes in the wedding

party were **Kelly Ryan '10, Laura Moorhead '11 and Jamie Fale '09.** The couple currently resides in Puyallup, Wash.

2010

Class Representative – **Nick Caraballo and Jilian Foss**

Dannielle Hanson currently lives in Graham, Wash., and is a communication arts teacher for the Bethel School District.



Philip Munson married **Kari (Stout) Munson** on July 31 in Ellensburg, Wash. Philip is currently working as a research assistant at Washington State University.

Future Lutes

1993



Tasha (Werkhoven) Sullivan and husband, Sean, welcomed the birth of their son, Matthew James, on March 13. Matthew joins big brothers Andrew, 9, and Ryan, 7.

1994



Kim (Kemmerling) Truebenbach and husband, Craig, welcomed the birth of their son, Scott, on August 14. Scott joins big sister Sierra, 7. Kim recently published a comment in the journal; Lutheran Quarterly titled "Luther's Two Kingdoms in the Third and Fourth Petition."

1995

Jason Fawcett and wife, Maren, welcomed the birth of their son, Isaiah James, on July 24. The family currently resides in Beaverton, Ore.



Katy (McCallum) Sachse and husband, Brian, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Maren Grace, on October 30.

Lori Wambolt and husband, Chad, welcomed the birth of their son, Brenden, in February. Chad joins big sisters Madelyn and Audrey. The family currently resides in Melbourne, Australia.



Daniel Mattson and wife, Marianne, welcomed the birth of their son, Joseph Daniel, on September

10. He joins big sisters Adeline, 9, Molly, 7, and Grace, 3.

1996



Judd McCaffree and wife, Amy, welcomed the birth of their son, Landon, on April 19, 2010. Judd works as

an MRI technologist and is a member of the National Ski Patrol at Mt. Spokane. The couple currently resides in Spokane, Wash.

1997

Noelle (Dennis) Nelson and husband, Christopher, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Hannah, on May 28, 2010.



Jesse Caryl and wife, **Cindy (Sinnes) Caryl '97**, welcomed the birth of their son, Maximus Blu, on

December 3, 2009. The family lives in West Hollywood, Calif.

1998



Jessica (Hoffman) Resendiz and husband, Roberto Resendiz wel-

comed the birth of their daughter, Elise Ember on June 12. She joins big sister Natalie, 4. The family lives in Honolulu, Hawaii.



Leslie Harstad-Bell and husband, Anders Harstad-Bell, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Iris

Peace, on April 23, 2009. Leslie is a teacher at Creswell Middle School and Anders works as a Farmer's Insurance agent. The family lives in Springfield, Ore.

1999



Jennifer (Goody) Hughes and husband, Rene Edward, welcomed the birth of their son, Ethan

Hughes, on March 25. He joins big brother Ryan, 3.



Jennifer (Johnson) Zovar and husband, Joel, welcomed the birth of their son, Henry Werner, on

October 22. Jennifer is pursuing her Ph.D. in anthropology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and is working as an adjunct instructor of anthropology at Heartland Community College. Joel is pursuing a Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Illinois. The family lives in Urbana, Ill.



Craig Vattiat and wife, Margaret, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Edith, on December 12, 2009. The family

lives in Portland, Ore.



Audra (Buckley) Osborn and husband, James, welcomed the birth of their son, James Aaron, on July 28. The family currently resides in Fort Worth, Texas.



David Uhler and wife, **Kendra (Huling) Uhler '99**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Liesl Lou, on September

24. The family resides in Seattle, Wash. David is the director of research and development for Slalom Consulting. Liesl is the first grandchild for **Richard '69** and Nancy Huling. Liesl's great-grandparents are **Anita (Stuen) '46** and **Neil Potthoff '49.**



Kristy (Halverson) Bingham and husband, Levi, welcomed the birth of the daughter,

Josephine Hanalei, on October 8. Josephine joins big brother Oscar, 3. The family currently lives in Puyallup, Wash.

2000



Beth (Steele) Cavanaugh and husband, Colby, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Iris Anne, on March

31. Iris joins big brother Liam, 2. Beth is excited to spend a year at home with the little ones, as she takes a leave of absence from her position as a drama and English teacher at Milwaukie High School. The family resides in Portland, Ore.

Tricia (Schmidt) Berger and husband, **Mike Berger '00**, welcomed the birth of their son, Jordan Diesel William, on March 3, 2010. The family lives in Issaquah, Wash.



Heather (Wendt) Wahl and husband, Allen, welcomed the birth of their son, Sawyer John David, on

September 22. Sawyer joins big sister Abrielle, 2.

2001



Sarah (Scales) Schultz and husband, Jim, welcomed the birth of their twins, Cody and Claire, on August 12.

The family lives in Snoqualmie, Wash.



Karl Ryan and wife, Wendy, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Delaney Ann, on September 28.

The family currently resides in Bellevue, Wash.



Kristen (Roddell) Steidle and husband, Thomas Steidle, welcomed the birth of their son, Aiden

William, on July 15. Aiden joins big brother Brady, 2. Kristen is a school counselor for Garden Grove Unified School District. The family lives in Orange, Calif.



Julie (Dames) Ryan and husband, Kelly, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Sophia, on

December 1, 2009. She joins big brother Finnegan, 3.

2002

Kristin (Becklund) Philips and husband, Brendan, welcomed the birth of their



daughter, Sylvie Lauren, on April 25, 2010. Kristin is a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at

Tacoma General Hospital. The couple currently resides in University Place, Wash.

2003



Kris Harris and wife, **Alison (Johnson) Harris '02**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Lauren Faith, on Aug. 8,

2009. Kris is a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and is currently stationed at Naval Air Station, Meridian, Miss., as a flight instructor. She joins big brother Michael, 3.

2005



Scott Stauffer and wife, **Sara (Stores) Stauffer**, welcomed the birth of their son, Henry McCall, on

August 25. The family currently resides in Portland, Ore.



Heidi (Larsen) Ludeman and husband, Jonathon, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Kjirsten Astrid, on June

6, 2010. The family currently resides in Renton, Wash.

David Eichholtz and wife, **Ashley (Pointowsky)**, welcomed the birth of their son, Emmett James, on May 4, 2010.



Amber (Krick) Simonsen and husband, Scott, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Lydia, on October 12.

The family currently lives in Puyallup, Wash.

2006



Melissa (Fenstermacher) McGuire and husband, Jonathan, welcomed the birth of their son,

Callen Michael, on November 16. The family lives in Tacoma, Wash.

2007



Keigha St. Clare and husband, Aaron Stone, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Amara Stone-St. Clare,

on March 13, 2010. Amara joins big brother Oillian, 2. This year the couple opened a lawn care company. Keigha runs the office and Aaron works in the field. [S]

BOOKS
FROM
A-Z

Garfield
BOOK COMPANY
AT PLU

continued from back page

Germany (and writing books about the subject, of course).

He realizes it is an odd combination: Not many people are experts in cutting-edge computer programming and 500-year old political and religious history. He's also aware that some people might suggest that, in studying 16th Century European history, he is again writing books about things nobody cares about.

“When I first came here, I thought it was the biggest place in the world,” Halvorson said of his days as an undergraduate student. “Now, I see it as pretty small – a place where one person, one teacher, can make a big difference.”

Hardly. He's currently working on a book that addresses this “why should I care?” question he sometimes con-



fronts. Tentatively titled “Golden Age: Ten Brilliant Leaps of Imagination,” the book considers some of the ideas that came out of Europe between 1400-1700 that still hold sway today. Inventions like the printing press, discoveries in anatomy and astronomy, and the creation of ideas like humanism and justification by faith.

Or, too, the very Lutheran concept of living a life of faith and interjecting it in the world. “It's the idea of connecting your morality with your citizenship,” he

said. This was, after all, what Martin Luther and the German Reformation was all about.

It's also what PLU is about. Halvorson knows – he's seen it from both sides, as a student and a history professor.

“When I first came here, I thought it was the biggest place in the world,” Halvorson said of his days as an undergraduate student. “Now, I see it as pretty small – a place where one person, one teacher, can make a big difference.” [S]

—Steve Hansen

alumni news & events

continued

April 29, 6 p.m.

2011 School of Business Honors Banquet
Scandinavian Cultural
Center

April 29, 6 p.m.

Language and Literatures Film Festival
Ingram Hall

April 29-30

Relay for Life
PLU Athletic Track

April 30, 8 a.m.

2011 Business Plan Competition
Morken Center

April 30, 10 a.m.

Norwegian Heritage Festival
Scandinavian Cultural Center

April 30, 6 p.m.

Annual Hawaii Club Luau
Olson Auditorium

MAY

May 1, 2 p.m.

Nordic Film Series
Scandinavian Cultural Center

May 1, 3 p.m.

Mu Phi Epsilon Concert
MBR Music Center

May 3, 7 p.m.

University Symphony Orchestra Concert
MBR Music Center

May 4

7th Annual Latino Youth Summit
Locations throughout campus

May 6, 6 p.m.

Language and Literatures Film Festival
"Janela da Alma," by João
Walter Carvalho
Ingram Hall

May 7, 9 a.m.

17th Annual Natural Sciences
Academic Festival
Morken Center

May 7, 6 p.m.

Q Club/Spring Donor Banquet
Olson Auditorium

May 7, 7:30 p.m.

Choir of the West International Tour
Preview Concert
Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

May 10, 8 p.m.

University Chorale Homecoming Concert
Mary Baker Russell Music Center

May 12, 13 & 14, 7:30 p.m.

Theater performance: "The Full Monty"
Eastvold Auditorium

May 13, 8 p.m.

Concert Band performance
Lagerquist Concert Hall

May 13, 7:30 p.m.

*Greater Tacoma Community
Foundation presents:*

BE THE SPARK WITH DESMOND TUTU
Tacoma Dome

May 14, 5:30 p.m.

PLUtonic/HERmonic Amphitheater Concert
Mary Baker Russell Music Center
Amphitheater

May 15, 6 p.m.

Athletics Awards Dessert
Olson Auditorium

May 17, 10:30 a.m.

Bengal Tigers and Nepal with Becci Crowe
Garfield Book Company Community Room

May 20 & 21, 7:30 p.m.

Theater performance: "The Full Monty"
Eastvold Auditorium

May 22, 2:30 p.m.

Theater performance: "The Full Monty"
Eastvold Auditorium

May 27, 6 p.m.

Nursing Graduate Recognition Ceremony
Trinity Lutheran Church

May 28, 2 p.m.

Nursing Pinning Ceremony
Trinity Lutheran Church

May 29, 2:30 p.m.

PLU Spring Commencement 2011
Tacoma Dome

JUNE & JULY

June 22, 11:30 a.m.

Strawberry Festival
Red Square

July 7, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

July 13, 11:30 a.m.

Raspberry Festival
Red Square

July 14, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

July 21, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

July 28, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

AUGUST

August 3, 11:30 a.m.

Blueberry Festival
Red Square

August 4, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

August 11, 7 p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

August 12, 7 p.m.

PLU Night at the Rainiers
Omaha Cubs vs. Tacoma Rainiers
Cheney Stadium, Tacoma

SEPTEMBER

September 6

Opening Convocation
Olson Auditorium

OCTOBER

October 14-16

Homecoming Weekend
Locations across
campus [5]

Address change: If this copy of Scene is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations with his or her new mailing address. You can reach us by phone at 253-535-7415 or 1-800-ALUM-PLU. You can also fax us at 253-535-8555 or e-mail alumni@plu.edu with the new information. Thanks!

one-on-one

From Microsoft to Martin Luther, and back again



After authoring more than 30 books about computer software, Associate Professor of History Michael Halvorson decided he would study (and write about) Martin Luther and Reformation Germany.

In 1994, Mike Halvorson was the first one to write a book about something nobody else cared about. The book? How to use a little-known software program called Microsoft Office.

We can guess how that turned out.

Halvorson graduated PLU in 1985 with a degree in computer science and a minor in history. That unique combination seemed to help when, soon after graduation, Halvorson found himself

working for Microsoft, back in the days when they only had two buildings. He was employee #850.

“Why would a liberal arts degree matter?” he asked, musing on the days after his graduation. “It got me a job!”

The job was at Microsoft Press, the software giant’s in-house book publishing division. He worked there until 1993 and then set off on his own. By 2000, he had authored more than 30 books on how to master various soft-

ware programs, from Microsoft Office to Visual Basic. He’s sold more than a million copies.

And then, as Halvorson described it, he “pushed the re-set button.”

He decided to earn his master’s – then his Ph.D. – in European history. And soon thereafter, he found himself back at his alma mater teaching about Martin Luther and Reformation

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